



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Burundi

Government Institutions Restoration Talks Continue

'Peaceful' Progress Reported

EA2708191994 *Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 27 Aug 94*

[Text] Today, the team charged with overseeing the restoration of the presidency and other state institutions issued a communique on the peaceful continuation of the talks. Team members said they were pleased with the progress of the talks, and that they were continuing to move quickly along the proper path. The team asks political party members and Burundians at large to await in peace and security the outcome of the talks.

The team asks Burundians not to listen to the rumors circulating throughout the country—and especially in Bujumbura. The team commits itself to informing you of the end of the talks, and takes this opportunity to announce that a meeting attended by all participants in the talks will take place tomorrow, Sunday, 28 August 1994. The meeting will start at 1000. The communique was signed by Mr. Antoine Nijembazi and Bishop Simon Ntamwana, today, 27 August, 1994.

Politicians Divided Over Progress

EA2708203394 *Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 27 Aug 94*

[Excerpts] Politicians are divided over the stage reached in the ongoing talks at Kigobe Palace. Some say that the talks have ended. Others say they have not, while another lot say that they have been postponed. It is also said that some participants in the talks are meeting separately. The Rally for Democracy and Economic and Social Development Party chairman, Cyrille Sigejeje, spoke on this issue:

[Begin Sigejeje recording] I have nothing important to say, apart from stating where the truth lies. [passage omitted] I think that this question comes from the fact that people are saying that tomorrow's meeting will declare that the talks have ended, and that this is the purpose of the meeting called for by the head of state. However, this is not true, since the participants to the talks are due to meet on 29 August at Kigobe Palace. Therefore, we do not think that the president could have invited many people just to inform them about the end of the talks. Rather, it could be that they are to be informed about the progress so far since the talks have not yet ended. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Minister on 'Explosive' Situation in Country

AB2908115294 *Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1900 GMT 28 Aug 94*

[Text] The situation remains explosive in Burundi. The number of inter-ethnic clashes are on the increase

leaving death in their wake. The Burundian minister of state in charge of internal affairs and security, who is currently in Kinshasa, condemned this situation at a news conference he held at the Hotel Intercontinental. Here is Ndaye Assale with a report.

[Assale] Mr. Leonard Nyangoma, the minister of state in charge of internal affairs and security, who is also a candidate for the presidency, said that it is necessary to hold the international meeting on Burundi under the auspices of the United Nations and the OAU during which fundamental issues on refugees, the Army, and justice will be discussed.

[Begin Nyangoma recording] [Words indistinct] which is a consequence of the crisis sparked off by the coup plotters on 21 October 1993, remains a serious and explosive situation in which democracy in Burundi runs the risk of disappearing or becoming extinct if nothing is done internally and externally. [end recording]

Prime Minister Discusses Refugees, Education

BR2908132094 *Groot Bijgaarden DE STANDAARD in Dutch 29 Aug 94 p 4*

[Report on interview with Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko by Rik De Gendt; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] Education, legal assistance, refugees. These are the three priority issues which the Burundian Government wants to discuss at the Joint Belgian-Burundian Commission which is to meet in Brussels this week. Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko made this known in an interview with DE STANDAARD. Belgium is already responding to the greater part of these expectations with food-for-work projects at the camps for displaced persons and supervision of the building of 70 state colleges.

"Education in the widest meaning of the term is the first priority which we want to stress at the Joint Commission," Prime Minister Kanyenkiko specified. He wants to see both education in peace and reconciliation among all sections of the population and assistance in primary and secondary education. The sudden mass exodus of so many Rwandan teachers who had worked for many years in Burundi has brought a sudden acute shortage of staff.

"Everybody knows that the many crimes committed and still being committed which go unpunished are a serious problem facing the country," Kanyenkiko continues. "The unrest and disorder which followed the deaths of the two presidents (Melchior Ndadaye during the coup d'état of 21 October 1993, and Cyprien Ntaryamira in the attack on the Rwandan presidential plane on 6 April 1994) totally destabilized the Burundian legal system. Without jeopardizing our sovereignty, we are seeking assistance in building a new legal structure."

Burundi also hopes that the Joint Commission will be able to help provide a lasting solution in the region to the thousands of Burundians who have been forced to leave their homes, either in the past or just recently. "We are

even thinking of setting up a ministry for the reintegration of refugees and displaced persons," Prime Minister Kanyenkiko states.

At the Belgian Embassy's development aid section in Bujumbura, we learned that Belgium apparently already has major projects up and running in at least two of the three priority areas in which Burundi is requesting aid.

The "Belgian-Burundian humanitarian aid" which came into being last November is now concentrating its energies to an increasing extent on camps where refugees are prepared to return to their homes. [passage omitted]

Chad

Border Towns Reportedly Occupied by Sudanese Army

AB2908073294 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] For some time now, some Chadian villages on the border between Chad and Sudan have reportedly been under the occupation of the Sudanese National Army. These villages are in the east of Chad, especially in the (Gosbelida) Region. According to Chadian Interior Minister Abderamane Miskine, a solution would be found to this issue during the Chad-Sudan Joint Commission which will be meeting soon. Let us listen to Abderamane Miskine talk to Hassan Gueda Larmane.

[Begin Miskine recording] It is true that there is a number of villages which are being occupied by the Sudanese. I would like to inform you that the Chad-Sudan Joint Commission is preparing and will soon meet in Sudan. During the discussions, we will examine the problem that we have along our border with Sudan. I am convinced that with the cooperation of our Sudanese brothers, a solution will be found to this issue. [end recording]

I will now like you to listen to the reaction of Telli Borkou Monda, spokesman to the Movement-93 [M-93]—a movement which is opposed to President Idriss Deby's regime. He denounced the belated reaction of the government. Telli Borkou Monda spoke to Jean-Claude Frank Medome.

[Begin recording] [Monda] This is rather strange, because it has been more than a year ago that the entire Chadian opposition, especially the M-93 informed both the national and international opinion about the existence of a plan by the Sudanese authorities aimed at carrying out this occupation in flagrant violation of international laws concerning the existence of borders between states. Mr. Deby and his Patriotic Salvation Movement state-party are accomplices to this plan which they have deliberately refused to denounce. One thing that one cannot understand is that behind this occupation plan ...[pauses] in a recent past, it was the case with Libya. For just a piece of land called the Aozou Strip, the national opinion was largely mobilized. Today, Mr.

Deby is sitting quietly and unconcerned with this delicate issue of occupation. One cannot continue to create a precedence and then support such a kind of maneuver aimed at (?splitting) the country.

[Medome] The Chadian Government recognizes Sudan's occupation of Chadian villages and states that a joint commission will examine this issue.

[Monda] The problem is that it has been a year since these villages were occupied and we have just been waiting. This is quite strange. Has Mr. Deby not heard of this occupation? This is why the M-93 has vigorously denounced this occupation and we will do everything in our power to mobilize national and international opinions in order to enable Chad to recover its rights.

[Medome] What is the reaction of your movement concerning the agreement reached between the National Awakening Committee for Peace and Democracy and the Chadian Government?

[Monda] The problem does exist. It is a problem of national reconciliation with all the opposition parties. There is no need to negotiate with individual groups. It is necessary to look at the real problems facing Chad. Why is it that Chadians are not able to meet around the same table, around a table of national reconciliation and lay down the real problems? On this issue, Deby's appeal on 11 August is an appeal that should be addressed to himself. [end recording]

Congo

Parliament Passes Bill Creating West Cuvette Region

AB2608164094 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise Network in French 0700 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Now, let us turn to activities of Parliament, beginning with the Upper House where the honorable senators met at Parliament House yesterday. At this sitting, the bill creating the West Cuvette Region was passed. Blaise Koueri has the details:

[Koueri] With a population of 38,069 inhabitants and four districts, namely Ewo, Kele, Okoyo, and Mbomo, what is known today as the West Cuvette Region meets all the legal conditions for the creation of an administrative region. In addition to this, the sociological conditions are acceptable because the West Cuvette population is made up of a homogeneous sociological entity with virtually a single spoken language. Economically, the West Cuvette's agricultural output accounts for more than half of the total for the entire Cuvette Region, recording particularly 50 percent for coffee, 81 percent for maize, and 63 percent for cassava and rice.

The issue which gave rise to debate between Interior Minister Martin Mberi and the senators centered on the choice of Ewo as the regional capital but even on this point, there is a historical explanation for the choice.

Among the historical facts, there are three main considerations: The age of Ewo district—it was the only administrative center during the colonial period; its central geographical location in relation to the other three districts; third, the [word indistinct] of democratic politics. It should be noted that Ewo district is inhabited by a cross-section of the communities in the area and is the only one to have so far preserved the archives of the entire region. [passage omitted]

Rwanda

Defense Ministry: Hutu Militia Entering From Burundi

EA2808201194 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1800
GMT 28 Aug 94

[Excerpt] According to information from the high command of the Rwandan Army, the Interahamwe [pro-Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development] militia are continuing their ill-fated actions, which are aimed at discouraging people from resuming a normal life. The Defense Ministry is reporting such actions in Butare Prefecture. The militia are entering from Burundi to murder innocent people, and such acts are on the increase. According to the Defense Ministry, on 26 August six victims were counted in Kibayi commune, which borders Burundi. [passage omitted]

Malawian, Zambian UNAMIR Contingents Arrive

EA2808202094 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1800
GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] troops currently number 4,050. The latest troops to arrive were the Malawian and Zambian contingents, which arrived in Kigali yesterday in the framework of reinforcing UNAMIR-2. Here with more details is Major Guy Plante, the UNAMIR military spokesman, who was interviewed by Edouard Bizimuremyi, our colleague:

[Begin Plante recording] Although we have always asked for 5,500 men, we have recently learned that we were [passage indistinct]. We are heading toward our target, since we now have over 4,000. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Zaire

Soldiers Allegedly Harass Opposition Spokesman at Airport

AB2608104394 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730
GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] Yesterday, soldiers prevented Zairian opposition spokesman Lambert Mende from boarding a flight for Brussels at the Ndjili Airport, Kinshasa. They tortured and beat him. Apparently, the leader of the group was

Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo's brother, Kokoliko wa Dondo. Mr. Joseph Kiloumbou [not further identified] speaks to Ousmane Taba on the incident.

[Begin Kiloumbou recording] Mr. Mende was seriously threatened and subjected to violence by the political militia led by Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo's own brother. It is difficult to understand what is going on in Zaire. On the one hand, Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo claims his transitional government will respect human rights, but it is now clear that doing so is not one of his strong points. Not only is the prime minister providing for the Rwandan soldiers who massacred our Rwandan brothers, he is also now mistreating the Zairian people, especially the opposition, just as he mistreated Mr. Mende.

We denounce the attitude of this so-called transitional government, which was installed in the illegal manner we all know. Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo, this pseudo-Zairian, does not deserve to head our country. We should, therefore, continue our struggle. I urge the Zairian population and all Lumbumbist activists to continue to denounce this kind of behavior which brings dishonor to our country. [end recording]

Decision To Close Border With Rwanda 'Unchanged'

EA2608122094 Nairobi KNA in English 1110 GMT
26 Aug 94

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 26 August (KNA/PANA)—Zairian Interior Minister Gustave Malumba Mbangula [as received] said Thursday [25 August] in Kinshasa that the decision, last week, by his government to close the border with Rwanda remains unchanged.

"It would be untrue to say that the decision has been lifted," he said. If there is a certain relaxation of the measure, he said, it was only to help people in danger.

On the government decision on the withdrawal of elements of the Zairian Armed Forces (FAZ) guilty of looting in Goma, eastern Zaire, he said that "the measure is still applicable and is being implemented, despite transport difficulties." [passage omitted]

Government Begins Refugee Talks With Rwandans

AB2808144394 Paris AFP in English 1434 GMT
28 Aug 94

[Text] Goma, Zaire, Aug 28 (AFP)—Government delegations from Zaire and Rwanda embarked here Sunday [28 August] on two days of talks on the crisis sparked by the cross-border exodus of more than a million Rwandan refugees, officials said.

The talks got under way at around 4:00 p.m. (1400 GMT), half an hour after the Rwandan delegation arrived in this Zairean border town around which the bulk of the refugees are concentrated.

The 14-member Rwandan Government team made a tension-filled crossing of the border after Zairean frontier guards refused to allow the delegates' armed Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) escort to enter Goma with their weapons, correspondents reported.

Zairean Defence Minister Admiral Mavua Mudima and Justice Minister Gerard Kamanda wa Kamanda had arrived in Goma earlier in the day.

The talks, which are due to continue until Monday, are focusing on ways to encourage the refugees to return home, security problems and the activities of Rwanda's former Hutu-led government army inside Zaire.

They could also lay the basis for a summit meeting of heads of government, said the Zairean Defence Ministry spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Henri Ngoma.

"The problem is that one cannot force people to return home if they do not want to," he added.

A member of the Rwandan delegation said Interior Minister Seth Sendashonga might visit Goma Tuesday.

More than a million Rwandans have sought refuge in neighbouring Zaire in the last two months, around Goma and Bukavu respectively north and south of Lake Kivu, including members of the former government and nearly 30,000 soldiers of the defeated army.

Some of the soldiers have resumed training at a camp near Bukavu, according to aid groups there.

Many of the mainly Hutu refugees refuse to return to Rwanda, now governed by the Tutsi-led RPF, fearing retribution for ethnic massacres of Tutsis by the former government army and hardline Hutu militias and intimidation by their own refugee leaders.

Clashes Continue in Rwandan Refugee Camps

*AB2908092094 Paris AFP in English 0909 GMT
29 Aug 94*

[Excerpts] Goma, Zaire, Aug 29 (AFP)—Five people died, one of them a child, and another child was seriously injured in a series of clashes in two Rwandan refugee camps and in Goma over the weekend, a UN official said here Monday [29 August].

Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said the five were killed in three separate incidents. Two men and one woman were killed in a fight between Rwandan refugees in the Mununga camp near Goma overnight Saturday after after someone attempted to steal the plastic sheeting used by a group of refugees as their shelter.

In another incident, a Hutu man was killed in the Kituku camp after he encouraged fellow refugees to return to Rwanda. He was battered to death by a crowd of refugees, the UNHCR said.

In Goma itself a 15 year-old boy was killed and his 12-year-old brother seriously injured when a grenade exploded in the street in front of their home. Their Rwandan parents work for the UN's food aid agency, the World Food Programme.

Security for the refugees is one of the topics to be discussed at a meeting between Rwandan and Zairean authorities in Goma Monday.

A first meeting took place in Goma late Sunday and would continue Monday, a member of the Zairean delegation said.

The Rwandan government delegation has demanded the disarmament of the former Rwandan government's troops and the recovery of the arms and money they brought with them into Zaire.

The Mununga camp, some 12 kilometres (eight miles) west of Goma, is currently home to around 220,000 refugees, around 20,000 of whom are members of the former government forces.

The Rwandan delegation has also demanded the vehicles and radio and television equipment taken into the country. [passage omitted] covered in first referent item]

On Sunday, a spokesman for the UN force in Rwanda said meanwhile that soldiers of the new government army had shot dead one man and detained three others from a convoy of 300 refugees returning from Kibuye in the southwest humanitarian zone. Major Jean-Guy Plante of the UN Mission in Rwanda said the incident happened Saturday afternoon at the first checkpoint just outside the safety zone established by French soldiers, who handed over to UN soldiers last weekend. The person tried to flee as he was being interrogated and between 10 and 15 soldiers gave chase and a lot of rounds were heard before the soldiers returned to report that they had killed the man.

UDPS Has 'No Objection' To Joining Government

AB2808145394 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1230 GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] The federal executive committee of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress [UDPS] has no objection to joining the government of Prime Minister Leon Kengo wa Dondo. That is what UDPS Chairman Nicholas Badingaka mainly told newsmen at a press briefing recently.

Somalia

Aidid Terms Attack on UN Troops 'Barbarous'

EA2808203094 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] Mohamed Farah Aidid, leader of the Somali National Alliance, SNA, and the chairman of the United Somali Congress, today at his office received Ambassador James Victor Gbeho, the UN special envoy to Somalia. During their talks, Mr. Aidid referred to the good working relations between the SNA and UN Operation Somalia [UNOSOM], and the need to strengthen them.

Referring to the bandits who had attacked some of the Indian UNOSOM soldiers, leader Aidid described the incident as barbarous, reiterating that the SNA had always opposed to such acts of banditry and terrorism. Mr. Aidid added that some foreign media had been misreporting the incident, saying that the SNA was behind the barbarous attack, since it was carried out in the area controlled by the SNA. Leader Aidid told the ambassador that the SNA was ready to do what it could to help the UN forces discharge their duties during their term in Somalia.

For his part, Ambassador Gbeho commended the SNA for the prevailing stability and calm in Mogadishu, which, he said, was attributable to the tangible steps taken by the SNA. On the foreign media misreporting of the incident, in which some Indian soldiers were killed, Ambassador Gbeho said UNOSOM had evidence showing that the SNA was not responsible for the incident. He thanked leader Aidid for the warm welcome accorded him.

Tanzania

Government To Close 6 Embassies To Reduce Spending

EA2608194094 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1700 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] The government today decided to close six embassies abroad as part of the steps to cut expenditure and to enable the government to serve the remaining embassies well. A statement issued by the principal secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international cooperation, Ibrahim Msabaha, said the six embassies would be closed within the next two months. The statement said the embassies being closed are those in The Hague, Holland; Ottawa, Canada; Rome, Italy; Kinshasa, Zaire; Kigali, Rwanda; and Lagos, Nigeria. The statement said that government houses attached to the embassies being closed would not be sold so as to leave the way open for a decision to restore the embassies when the economic situation improves.

Uganda

Troops Sent to Sudan Border To Stop Arms Traffic

AB2608184094 Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] Kampala, 26 Aug (AFP)—Uganda has deployed troops along its common border with Sudan to stop an alleged arms smuggling from Sudan to anti-government rebels in north and northwest of the country, a Ugandan minister said Friday [26 August].

Minister of State for Defence Amama Mbabazi told AFP that about 90 rebels of the "fanatical" Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) of former Roman Catholic catechist Joseph Kony that had been battling forces of President Yoweri Museveni in northern Uganda in the past few years, have been killed since a new crackdown on the insurgents resumed a month ago.

Large amounts of weapons including land mines, alleged to have been acquired by the rebels from the Sudanese Army, have also been seized, during the onslaught against the rebels by the government's National Resistance Army (NRA). He did not, however, give any casualties on the government side, but said that "we suffered slight casualties".

"It is not possible to attain a water tight border control, but the deployed NRA men will try to handle the situation", he added, but declined to confirm tentatively allegations that the Sudanese Army was behind arms deals in support of rebels operating in northern Uganda. He said Uganda had already expressed its concern to Sudan about the arms issue, pointing out that a platoon sergeant of the Sudanese Army Samuel Mawat was captured by NRA forces in northern Uganda on 5 August while on a mission to escort LRA rebels returning to Uganda from an arms deal in southern Sudan.

The LRA rebels have been terrorising areas of northern Uganda, ambushing vehicles, some of which they set ablaze. They have also been abducting and killing people.

President Museveni Receives Aidid Emissary

EA2608194594 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 1700 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has today received a special message from the chairman of the Somali National Alliance, SNA, General Mohamed Farah Aidid. The message was delivered by an envoy from Gen. Aidid, Mr. Osman Ato Ali, who called on the president at his office in Kampala. Mr. Ato Ali also briefed the president about the current situation in Somalia and progress being made by the people of Somalia toward reconciliation.

President Mandela Not To Attend SADC Ceremony

*MB2808144994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1102
GMT 28 Aug 94*

[Text] Gaborone Aug 28 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela has been told to rest and will not attend South Africa's accession to the Southern African Development Community [SADC] at the organisation's heads of state summit in Gaborone, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said on Sunday. Mr Mandela, who underwent an eye operation recently, will be represented by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Mr Nzo told reporters in the Botswana capital. Mr Nzo said there was nothing unusual in Mr Mandela's absence at the summit.

President Mandela To Lead Delegation to Indonesia

*MB2908104194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0941
GMT 29 Aug 94*

[Text] Cape Town Aug 29 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela will lead an African National Congress delegation to Indonesia later this week. Spokesman Mr Parks Mankahlana confirmed the visit. Mr Mandela would be accompanied by high-ranking ANC members.

Part of the reason for the trip is to raise money for the ANC, which reportedly still has debts from the April elections amounting to about R35-million [rands].

Mr Mankahlana, meanwhile, refuted suggestions that concern about Mr Mandela's health had led to his taking three days off. Mr Mandela was resting on the advice of his office which had advised him that he had an opportunity to rest during three quiet days in his normally punishing schedule.

He will not attend South Africa's formal joining of the Southern African Development Community in Gaborone. However, there had been no plans for him to travel to Paris to take part in the Olympic congress. Mr Mandela did not attend the two-day meeting of the ANC's national executive committee in Cape Town at the weekend.

Mbeki on Government Achievements, Other Issues

*MB2608161194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0806
GMT 26 Aug 94*

[Interview with Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on 19 August; place not given;—published in the September issue of RSA REVIEW/RSA OORSIG; issued by the South African Communication Service on the SAPA PR wire service]

[Text] Attending to the Challenges

The main achievements reached during the first three months of the new South Africa, is the fact that the democratic settlement is holding; there is a general, common commitment to create a new South Africa, and that the government of national unity was able to agree relatively easily on a common policy framework, says Mr

Thabo Mbeki, executive deputy president. In this interview with Chris van Blerk, Mr Mbeki talks about his views on issues such as South Africa's capability as peacemaker in the southern African region and the possible establishment of a common regional security system; the effect of labour unrest on the decisions of investors; the importance of government transparency, and a possible freedom of information act.

Q [question]: More than three months have elapsed since the elections, and the inauguration of the president and the government of national unity (GNU). In retrospect, how would you describe these last three months of the transition from authoritarian rule to a democracy in South Africa and the birth of a new South Africa?

A [answer]: The best thing about the last three months is the fact that the democratic settlement is holding. There were fears about some people who might still have wanted to challenge this democratic transition with violence. That has not happened. It says to all of us that the people of South Africa, even those who, on the eve of the elections and during the elections felt threatened to the extent that they continued to plan acts of violence, have understood that this is indeed the best path for the country and for the people as a whole. I think that is a great achievement.

Another important achievement was the spirit of consensus which prevailed during the constitution-making process, during the days of the election and the general common commitment to create a new South Africa. That has been confirmed in the last three months by the formation of the government of national unity (GNU) and by the relative ease with which the GNU was able to agree to a common policy framework. Thus, the great thing about the last three months has been a confirmation of the permanence of a democratic settlement and a confirmation of a sense of a common patriotism which enables people from different parties to co-operate—in a sense, overcoming what might be narrower party-political interests. People realised that there is a larger national interest that has to be served.

In my opinion, all of these developments have laid the basis for the process of transformation that has to take place. I do not think there is anybody now who fears and is suspicious that we are going to go back to a situation of conflict and that we should be afraid of changing the situation any more. This is the right atmosphere for people to say: let us now attend to the challenges facing this country.

Q: You recently held talks with the British prime minister, Mr John Major, during which, among other things, peace in southern Africa and the role of South Africa in this regard were discussed. Against the background of specific international expectations that exist in respect of South Africa's capabilities as donor, peacemaker and economic powerhouse, how do you view South Africa's 'new' role in the international community, and particularly in southern Africa?

A: There are a number of things we as a country have to do. One of them is indeed this question relating to peace and stability on the African continent as a whole. The moral of the issue is to participate in whatever processes that might be undertaken, particularly by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). We have to engage in all processes that could contribute towards the ending of existing conflicts and the avoidance of others that might be looming on the horizon. As a country, we need to set up some kind of 'early-warning' system. Thus, if there is a problem brewing, on whatever part of the continent, for instance the turmoil now in Lesotho, one would be able to acknowledge that there is trouble and then approach the OAU to outline South Africa's own understanding of the situation. We could then, as a member of the OAU, state what we are doing. The government would therefore be able to participate in whatever the continental initiatives might be to try hard to intervene in situations before they become impossible to handle, before people get killed, already weak states are destroyed and a refugee problem arises. In terms of diplomatic contact with other governments and the OAU itself, and with the co-operation of the media we can develop such a capacity for an early-warning system.

The fact that we now serve on the senior committees of the OAU which enables an intervention within the context of the OAU in this type of conflict, puts us in a good position to play a role. That kind of role, however, requires all kinds of capacities. There is, for instance, a debate going on in the country on the role of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). Sometimes people view the matter too narrowly. They regard the SANDF as an instrument to act against somebody or to defend the country in a situation where it may be under attack. However, the SANDF also has a peace-making role to play. Thus, with a capacity such as there is within the SANDF, I regard it as an important instrument to enable the force to play a peace-making role, even before reaching the stage of peacekeeping—in other words, to keep others from making war. In this regard, there is a very specific reference to the southern African region.

My own view is that the best way to go about this issue in regional context, is to establish an agreed-upon and negotiated common regional security system so that all the countries in the region are assured that none of the countries poses a threat to one another. The question of any uneasiness that there might be among neighbouring countries about the possibility of a threat from South Africa, can partly be addressed by such a common regional security system. Such a system is not solely of a military nature. It also relates to economic co-operation. Another element of such a system is that once the system is in place, it will increase the capacity of the region to play a peace-making role so that the countries of the region do not each act on their own. In this way, the countries of the entire region could act together, and thus make a combined contribution to the making of peace on the continent. That would ensure much more effective intervention in matters causing concern.

The existing situation is that a number of countries in the region, such as Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia are participating in peacekeeping operations in Somalia and Mozambique, but they are acting as individual countries. In other words, we must all pool our resources as far as the region is concerned, in order to attain a common regional security system so that, as a region, we can contribute to the peace-making process on the continent as a whole. I think the potential to do good in this respect is quite clear.

Q: Will a common regional security system include the signing of non-aggression pacts?

A: Yes, indeed. Firstly, I must emphasise that the countries concerned must get together and dedicate themselves to no committing acts of aggression against one another. Secondly, another element would entail that the countries agree to act together in case they are threatened by a third country. Thirdly, the countries of the region would also have to agree to certain basic political positions, for instance, issues such as the defence of democracy, the defence of human rights as well as the defence of the sovereignty of each one of the countries. The common regional security system would then be based on a common perspective. A stable regional security system cannot be created if there are mixed systems, for instance, if some countries are under dictatorships and others adhere to the democratic system. The general experience of the European countries in building up a common security system testifies to this principle. I think the discussion on the African continent has also clearly identified the interconnection between denial of human rights, the absence of democracy and conflict. When people are denied their rights, there will be an eruption sooner or later. Non-aggression pacts should therefore be part of a regional security system, a commitment to act together against whatever might be a threat from the outside, as well as a commitment to certain basic political values.

Q: Great Britain has announced an assistance package to South Africa which is most generous response from any country in respect of aid and investment incentives since the inauguration of the G:U. However, serious labour unrest and strikes costing the country millions of rands a day, have since disrupted the economy. What kind of pressures are you referring to, what impact do they have on industry and what is the danger of a runaway strike movement?

A: For instance, in terms of the recent Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), some tariffs will have to be lowered as from the beginning of 1995. That is going to happen and is going to impact on different branches of investment in different ways. Therefore, the government, employers and trade unions will have to decide how to respond and I am sure that will happen. If, for example, tariffs are reduced on textile and clothing and the automobile industry, what will the consequences be? It is in everybody's interest that we have a united, collective response to that type of situation.

Given that larger context, I do not believe that a situation of a runaway strike movement would develop. This

could, however happen if the trade union movement were defined as not being party to the solution, but being the problem. The unions are part of the process of finding solutions to the problems of the country. If this is acknowledged, we would have a situation where the unions would determine what their contribution to the remaking of South Africa could be, in addition to and apart from whatever the average worker might want as an annual wage increase. I honestly do not think we have a major threat of a strike movement that will drive away investors. In reality, the first national industrywide strike we have had so far, has been in the automobile industry. The earlier strike involved only one supermarket chain and not the entire retail trade. This is an indication of the level of restraint among unions.

Q: Transparency has become the operative word in the workings of the government. The government's Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) is an example of the application of this principle. In general, what steps are being taken to ensure a policy of transparency?

A: There is general agreement in the GNU that the process of the elaboration of policies which, in the end would be reflected in legislation, has to try to involve as many stakeholders as possible. For example, if changes in agriculture are discussed, the agricultural unions must be involved in the process. I am aware of steps to establish an agricultural workers' union and we would want the people concerned with such a union to be involved in discussions.

Similarly, parliament should ideally be involved in such discussions even before a bill is tabled. It is an important process, because by the time a bill is tabled all inputs would have been received and everybody concerned would have been informed as to what is strived for and what means are proposed in order to achieve the goal. Even with regard to the budget, the minister of finance has announced in the National Assembly that his ministry will be making proposals to the cabinet on how parliament could be involved, not just in the approval of the budget that is tabled, but to contribute to the process formulating the budget.

The other element to it, which is perhaps not as strong as it should be, is the issue of dissemination of information. When legislation is drafted, one must get hold of all stakeholders, but one has to go beyond that to inform the country as a whole. Sure, agriculture in general and an agricultural bill might be of more direct relevance to an agricultural workers' union, the agricultural credit institutions and farmers, but informing the general public in addition to the immediate interest groups, is an important part of the process of transparency. The means by which this is done, is a challenge which derives in part from the fact that the media have not redefined their role in the context of a non-racial democracy. A large part of the media has opposed apartheid and has therefore assumed a particular posture: "We, the media, have got to be the critics of this racist government and we have to expose whatever bad things they are doing."

This is something that can be understood, deriving as it does from a system that was unjust. However, the system has been changed in the way the majority of the media wanted it to change, but the posture of the media has not changed. They merely remain in the position of critics, they want to expose the evils, looking for something that is wrong. However, the issue of informing the general public can be influenced by the media saying "now that we have a non-racial democracy and a changed situation, we also have the responsibility of informing the public about what is happening." When, for example, a bill is tabled, the media can render a simplified version of it, explaining it to the people, so that the public is generally informed. That increases the capacity of people to intervene.

The other important element in respect of transparency is the point that President Nelson Mandela made on the dismantling of the old, secret informer network on political activities and even more than political activities, because somebody might have been opposed to the system or might have been in the position where they would know who was opposed to the system. Transparency cannot be sustained when, at the same time, you maintain a system that seeks to intimidate, so that people are afraid to intervene in critical ways because they do not know who is spying on them and who is keeping notes on what they say. That is something that we are attending to, to make sure that people should feel free to contribute to all the great debates that are taking place and that are going to take place, even to criticise and to disagree.

Related to the capacity to disagree, must be the involvement in discussion, on legislation for instance, of people who are generally uninformed about where policies are going and what they determine. People should not be afraid to speak up. Transparency, however, has an impact on the formulation and implementation of policy, that it necessarily slows down the process because wide consultation takes place. Even when the stage of implementation is reached, one would want to ensure that one does not approach matters in a bureaucratic fashion. It is a price that has to be paid for a particular process, and we must be conscious of this fact. A person cannot say he or she wants to be consulted with regard to matters of state, which is quite correct, and then expect a decision on the matter by tomorrow. It is not possible. It is all part of a process and that is our reality.

Q: As regards transparency and improved access to information, would you consider a freedom of information act as an eventual necessity?

A: Yes, a freedom of information act is necessary. It is, in a sense, what the constitution states about the right of individuals to information to ensure the protection of their liberties. It is a constitutional provision. Necessarily, it has to be translated into legal force, so yes, a freedom of information act is indeed essential. Processes are about to start with regard to the formulation of such an act in the way that I have described, involving sectors of society to discuss all the relevant aspects. We are in a fortunate position in

many respects as a country, in that we have arrived at a democratic settlement at the tail end, as it were compared to many other countries. Therefore, there is a wealth of experience available that we could and will draw from with regard to freedom of information act.

However, it must be determined what the purposes of such an act should be. In countries such as the United States of America (U.S.), when the issue of a freedom of information act first arose, it was in response to the feeling of a threat which the U.S. Secret Service posed, involving espionage on people and the involvement by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in all sorts of activities in foreign countries. It had to be determined what the CIA was up to. I am, however, not sure that that should be the focus of such an act for South Africa. I think it will proceed from the position where people can be empowered to participate in the exercise of government. There cannot be participation in governance without information. Therefore, it must not only be there because the matter of secret services is addressed.

The freedom of information act will not be a hostile mechanism, and it is not as though it will be used as a weapon against a government department. It will rather be a benign piece of legislation intended to ensure that the general public can play their roles as citizens of this country properly. It is part of the experience that we can draw from other countries in terms of the philosophical underpinnings of such an act. That is one element.

Another element that must be discussed, is the role of public institutions. People think of a freedom of information act in terms of them, as citizens, asking the government for information. On the one hand, this is correct, 'ut what about a citizen asking, for example, why has supermarket chain a increased the price of mutton by say 50 per cent? He or she is entitled to this information. On the other hand, why does the media put out a story on the subject which in the end is proved to be false? What happens in editorial offices? Therefore, the question could arise as to whether, in terms of such an act, a citizen should be entitled to ask the editors how false information came to be published? Should public institutions (bearing in mind that the government is not the only institution that is public), that have an impact on the lives of millions of people, also have access to this information? The capacity to intervene in terms of the remaking of South Africa, is indeed not only applicable in respect of information that might be in the hands of the government, but it might also imply intervention with regard to information that is in the hands of other institutions, for example, the Chamber of Mines.

Q: As the responsible office-bearer, what are your views on the importance of government communication/information, particularly with regard to the RDP, and are you of the opinion that a new general information policy might be necessary in future?

A: The government information services will need to have a relook at this matter. We are proceeding from the position

of empowering individuals and communities to become involved in a meaningful way in the reconstruction and development of South Africa. On the one hand the question needs to be asked if the government information services are achieving this objective and how they go about ensuring that the government can say to the public: This is what we are doing and what we intend to do.

On the other hand, the government is receiving feedback from the population. This feedback must determine how the government services can act as part of the process of empowerment. That is a matter that needs to be looked at quite carefully. I am not sure myself whether this is being done as effectively as it should. It may be that there is a too exclusive dependence on what the mass media generally would record. A media conference may be called and a media statement issued, and that is the end. Something additional may have to be done. For example, when rural development is the issue, a big commercial paper based in Johannesburg might not be interested since the paper is probably not distributed in rural areas. In some of those areas, there are often low levels of literacy and little or no access to newspapers and television. In such cases, the government services have to reach those communities and constituencies.

Government information and communication services must certainly ascertain whether they are making an impact, particularly in those areas that do not have ready access to other sources of information and opinion.

Q: With regard to the South African Communications Service (SACS), what can be done to prevent the misuse of this organisation fro party-political purposes?

A: The best way to go about this matter, is to ensure the necessary transparency and accountability in terms of the operation of the SACS, so that it can account and report to Parliament, to the government and to the public at large. It has to make itself accessible to everybody. Provided it does not operate secretly somewhere in a dark corner but considers itself a public service, open and accountable to the public, I do not think there would be any danger of its being transformed into a party-political instrument.

Q: So, again transparency would be the keyword in this regard?

A: Certainly. One assumes that the SACS as a government institution, and the people who constitute the SACS, have a commitment to the principle of transparency, and therefore entertain a philosophy of refusal to be used to serve any particular party- political purpose.

Q: Although the exchange of information and government communication at local level are important, foreign communication can be seen as equally important in promoting any country's global aims, interests and image. Do you foresee the return of the government's foreign information function?

A: This issue will have to be discussed with the department of foreign affairs to establish whether a need for

such a function exists. There is, for instance, a good argument that a diplomat is not necessarily your best communicator in this particular sense and that an additional communication function might be useful.

Q: As executive deputy president, how do you view the challenges facing the GNU in the next five years?

A: Firstly, the biggest challenge is the challenge of securing high rates of sustained economic growth. The capacity to meet the objectives stated in the RDP, namely a better life for all, can only be realised on the basis of the generation of the resources that will enable us to create a better life for all. We dare not fail, it has to happen.

The second biggest challenge is to transform South Africa into a genuinely non-racial society and a non-sexist society. However, the struggle against sexism will, in my opinion, take a little longer because of the depth of the problem, but more immediately the transformation of the country to a non-racial society is very important. It is an all-encompassing objective, because it has to include redistribution of resources and the distribution of opportunities. It has to do with the face of government, whether in the public service or anywhere else. It has to do with human settlements in this racially divided country. It has to do with a whole range of issues, and that is a big challenge. If the matter of non-racialism is not addressed, even if a high economic growth rate is achieved, and a non-racial South Africa is not consciously and deliberately created, one could find oneself in an economic process which reinforces old matters and old social systems. A democratic settlement cannot be democratic and non-racial in name only. Physical changes have to be seen.

The third challenge is the removal of the fear of violence. This includes political violence, criminal violence and violence against women and children. This is actually quite horrifying. One has to go out of South Africa to realise just how terrible the situation here has become. In England, if one person gets killed in three months, it is a headline story.

In South Africa, people get killed every day as a result of political, domestic and criminal violence. It is when one goes to other countries, that one realises how deep this specific problem has become. For instance, the killing of police officers is a rare occurrence in many countries. In England, any person who is convicted and sentenced for the murder of a British police officer, would have a miserable time in prison, because the prisoners themselves have the attitude that even though they are prisoners, they find it unacceptable that a member of the police force is killed, because he or she is supposed protect their wives and children. The killing of policemen and women is one of the worst crimes amongst criminals. In South Africa it is different. Fear stalks the streets. We do not have a normal, humane society. That is a matter that has to be addressed urgently if the people of South Africa are to lead a normal existence, free from fear and violence.

IFP's Buthelezi on Functioning of KwaZulu Government

*MB2708150994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0412
GMT 27 Aug 94*

[Text] Ulundi Aug 26 SAPA—Home Affairs Minister and Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi on Friday expressed concern over the widespread public perception that the KwaZulu/Natal provincial parliament and cabinet were not governing.

Speaking in Ulundi at a farewell function in his honour as former KwaZulu chief minister, Mr Buthelezi said: "There is no recognised legislative programmes that are being hailed and there are no policy directions being struck which grip the imagination of ordinary men and women."

He said IFP members of the provincial parliament and cabinet desperately needed to take hold of the authority they wielded as members of the majority party so that the people they governed perceived them to be governing.

"I am aware of the extent to which the ANC is being obstructionist in its rejection of Ulundi as the capital of KwaZulu/Natal and other efforts that they have made to undermine the KwaZulu/Natal provincial parliament. Issues must be resolved. If we go on holding positions of power without governing for the benefit of the people, we will never win another election."

Buthelezi Urges End to Political Violence

*MB2808182994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1406
GMT 28 Aug 94*

[Text] Ulundi Aug 28 SAPA—Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, predicting a bruising election in five years, on Sunday urged his followers not to use violence in pursuing their political objectives. "The way to the IFP's future is through non-violent democratic means of achieving our political ends. We want an orderly, stable South Africa in which to fight elections," Chief Buthelezi told a victory rally at Prince Mangosuthu Stadium in Nseleni District.

"Of all the parties in South Africa the IFP least needs to resort to violence, and of all the political parties in the country the IFP has lost the most from violence, and has the most to lose in continuing violence."

"The elimination of violence is a vital necessity for both political normalisation and for economic development and job creation...I am very, very confident of the future if we can bring violence under control."

He told the gathering the National Party would be swamped in the 1999 election and that the battle for supremacy through the ballot would be waged between the African National Congress and the IFP. "The National Party will in all probability not do so well in the next election because it is only parties which have deep roots in black society that will make any kind of showing in the next general election," Chief Buthelezi said.

"With the last election victory behind you, and with local authority elections behind you, it will be all systems go for a crushing defeat of our political enemies in the next election," he added. "In future it will be the ANC and the IFP which will, turnabout, form governments and become the opposition."

In his speech Chief Buthelezi who is home affairs minister in the Government of National Unity, told his followers again of alleged moves by the ANC to drive a wedge between him and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini. "Games that they (ANC) are now playing in trying to play off His Majesty the king against me, will in the end be seen as a wild goose chase. There is a viciousness in their efforts to manipulate His Majesty the king which we must not underestimate. All this is meant to split the Zulu nation," Chief Buthelezi said.

ANC National Executive Statement on Meeting
*MB2908073394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2206
GMT 28 Aug 94*

[Statement by the ANC National Executive Committee issued by the office of the secretary general on the SAPA PR wire service; date not given]

[Text] The National Executive Committee [NEC] of the ANC met in full plenary on the 27th and 28th August 1994 in Cape Town. The plenary meeting, presided over by national chairperson, Comrade Thabo Mbeki, focused on an agenda title "From Resistance to Reconstruction" with the objective of defining the way forward of the ANC during this new phase in our country's history.

The NEC considered a conjunctural analysis presented by Comrade Thabo Mbeki which examined the challenges facing the ANC as both the leading organisation in the government of national unity and the leading body in the broad democratic alliance the input and discussion identified the defence and advancement of the democratic transformation as the principal task facing the ANC. This broad thrust entails the dismantlement of the legacy of apartheid and the creation of a non racial society to effect this requires strong, properly functioning and efficient government at national provincial and local levels, interacting with a multiplicity of organisations of civil society.

The plenary accepted that the ANC's overwhelming majority in the national parliament and seven of the provincial assemblies, in the context of political democracy, enabled the movement to take the lead in organising our entire society for change through the co-ordination of parliament and extra parliamentary initiatives. The key component of such co-ordinating will be the mobilisation of all the communities for their involvement in the implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP].

The NEC noted that there was an unhealthy tendency to misconstrue the creative debates and spirited discourse that have always characterised the ANC, as factionalism and as potential lines of fissure.

The NEC reaffirmed the unity of the ANC whether in parliament or outside parliament, the unity of the tripartite alliance and the broad democratic movement around the common strategic approach embodied in the Reconstruction and Development Programme. The national executive committee looked at ways to enhance co-ordination among these organisations at all levels.

A number of organisational decisions arising from the report of secretary general, Comrade Cyril Ramaphosa, to the national executive committee, were also taken. It was agreed that the national working committee would henceforth meet fortnightly on alternate Mondays and that the national executive committee should meet at least twice before the 17th of December 1994. The national executive committee ratified national working committee decisions regarding the establishment of an ANC sub-head quarters close to parliament in Cape Town, the restructuring of the ANC's headquarters at Shell House in Johannesburg, salaries paid to ANC personnel, the deployment of elected ANC's representatives for constituency work and the establishment of an ANC constitutional assembly.

The national executive committee ratified the recommendation that the 49th regular national conference of the ANC should be held on the 17th of December 1994 in the Orange Free State Province. Preparations for the conference are taking place at various levels of the movement. This includes the rationalisation of ANC regions into provinces and other sub-structures. Provincial conference will be held in the next three months.

The national executive committee reviewed reports on preparations for the local government elections and agreed that these efforts need to be intensified.

The national executive committee, having received and considered a report on the remuneration of elected officials, reiterated its commitment to the total eradication of all forms of corruption and any " gravy train", arising from the apartheid era, in the government. This is what the ANC put in the national agenda, and this is what it is committed to pursue.

The meeting approved the decision of the national working committee to set up a sub committee to examine the issue of salaries for elected public officials. The sub committee, which is to be made up of members of the national executive committee and representatives of the ANC parliamentary caucus, will place its recommendation before the national working committee shortly. This is to enable the ANC to develop a formal position for presentation in the public debate in parliament.

The national executive committee was unanimous that this matter should be handled with expedition in line with the basic policies and morality of the ANC. This includes ensuring that clarity is established on appropriate remuneration for elected officials at all levels, as well as massive expenses that are incurred by these officials. It also requires an examination of the wide gap

between the lowest and highest paid officials in the public sector. Hasty and uninformed judgments can only have effect of fermenting unnecessary antagonisms between public officials and communities they serve. The ANC is committed to maximum openness and transparency in dealing with this matter.

The national executive committee noted that this was its first ever meeting since the inauguration of the government of national unity. The meeting expressed satisfaction with the progress being made to reconcile the South African society and implement the RDP, a programme that has, in the main, become the property of the nation as a whole. In this regard, the meeting concurred with the 100 days assessment of President Nelson Mandela on the occasion of his budget debate in parliament.

The meeting expressed confidence that the ANC and its allies are geared for the task of national transformation, including a decisive victory in the local government elections. This is crucial for the effective implementation of the RDP and all round transformation of the South African society.

South African Press Review for 26 Aug

MB2608135694

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Mass Action To Harm Country—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 25 August in its page 6 editorial comments on the truck drivers' blockade of major routes demanding better wages, saying, "The government is making tremendous demands on the business community to implement the Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP]; it must also make demands on the unions not to damage the RDP by injurious strikes and protests. The ANC used the unions for mass protests and strikes that helped to end apartheid and force the government to the polls; it had better take care that similar action does not harm it and the country too."

THE STAR

More Power to Provinces—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 August in a page 12 editorial urges "more attention" to be paid to the shortcomings of the Interim Constitution, such as the power currently enjoyed by the provinces, which are "far from sufficient." "Unitarist-turned-federalist Mathews Phosa, the Eastern Transvaal Premier, is right: more exclusive legislative powers should be devolved to the provinces so that they can deliver effectively the services expected of them. That, after all, is the essence of democracy: bringing government closer to the people. As Phosa says, the ANC's earlier fears that federalism was 'the last outpost of the apartheid/colonial ideals' were unfounded."

BUSINESS DAY

Government 'Arm-Twisting' Journalists—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 August in a page 6

editorial says the new government's commitment to "transparency" is not unconditional, nor is it "above some subtle arm-twisting designed to cow journalists into submission." The editorial notes that Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo's spokesman Bernie Fanarooff was "clearly alarmed at the disclosure of details of the department's draft Green Paper on the RDP, and the fact that it has upset elements in the ANC alliance because of its (in our view praiseworthy) fiscal conservatism." So he has attempted to "undermine" the BUSINESS DAY report "using arguments which are, at best, manipulative and less than straightforward." "Naidoo's department, and the government as a whole, will have difficulties in selling to some ANC constituents an RDP economically more clearly and realistically defined than the pre-election model. If they set out to do so in the transparent manner in which this government has promised to operate they will win greater respect all round."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

Government Leaders Not Seen to Tighten Their Belts—A page 32 editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 26 August-1 September says South Africans are not going to tighten their belts "when they see that their leaders, Mandela included, have a loose notch or two on their own belts. Why should trade union members respond to call for wage restraint when parliamentarians show so little of it themselves?" "The issue is not just one of how much politicians earn. It has coalesced around the number of houses available to the presidency and vice-presidencies, the cost of renovation and foolish and uncontrolled expenditure on non-essentials like replacement silverware. These have suddenly presented themselves as symbols of a new elite hitching a ride on the gravy train." WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN stresses that "this is a political problem, not an accounting problem—the solution is a political one, not a bureaucrat's one."

NEW NATION

Criticism of Truckers' Mass Action—Referring to the truckers' blockade of two major national routes this week, Johannesburg NEW NATION in English on 26 August says: "We can find no reason to justify the actions of the drivers—no matter how intractable employers have been, because very soon, they will have no choice but to accede to the demands." "Government has never been put on notice by the drivers, that they would take such action if it failed to ensure legislative changes compelling employers to form industrial councils." What concerns NEW NATION "is the evident lack of planning involved in the actions and the scope this creates for exploitation of the blockade by forces hostile to our fledgling democracy, for destructive purposes—especially when it has the potential to knock the RDP."

South African Press Review for 29 Aug

MB2908124194

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Outbreak of Student Violence—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 26 August in its page 6 editorial notes the "disturbing outbreak of student violence and protest at some institutions." The paper urges black and white students to "live side by side without the old antagonisms of the past." "Do not trash your institutions, do not assault staff, and for heaven's sake put learning ahead of protest. Your future, including your education, is in your own hands."

SUNDAY TIMES

ANC Must Turn To Needs of People—Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 28 August in its page 24 editorial notes that "the greatest problem" facing the government and all South Africans is "to regain perspective after a dislocating transfer of power." "To list the symptoms of turbulence, ranging from industrial strikes to student violence or to the fraud that has become a mark of South African life, does not cast much light, but from the turmoil emerges a recurrent theme: a demand for ill-defined, often ludicrous, 'rights'. The culture of entitlement, which is a fancy way of saying 'the world owes me a living', has settled on this country like a fog." "Mr Nelson Mandela and his cabinet ministers might do well to spend more time in the rising nations of the Far East, and less in the placid welfare states of the West, to discover that success in the modern world lies in a fierce work ethic, not in 'entitlements'. The ANC has been in power for nearly four months, and has spent much of that time securing its own interests: offices, cars, secretaries, drivers, bodyguards, perks, and air tickets. Now it must turn its attention from the satisfaction of its own appetites and desires to the needs of the nation."

THE STAR

Response of Lesotho Military?—A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 29 August refers to President Mandela's advice to Lesotho's King Letsi III to reinstate the deposed government, saying: "Measured diplomacy on his part seems to have delivered the message to King Letsie in polite but stern tones. But if the king does now acknowledge the greater democratic good, what will be the response of the Lesotho Defense Force? Deeply problematic and ambitious in the past, curiously unified behind the king and apparently quite disciplined over the present crisis, will the men in uniform also be willing to learn the necessary lesson of a democratic culture: that soldiers are only civil servants in defence of the people and the constitution? The lesson, for all the armies of southern

Africa and beyond, is as important as monarchs finding accommodation in a democracy."

BUSINESS DAY

Message to Lesotho Parties—The "consistent message" to Lesotho's fractious parties is that "South Africa and its other neighbours will bolster democracy against civilian, military or royal coups," points out a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 29 August. "That principled stand is far removed from South Africa's ideological interference of the past." "Southern African leaders, backed by the Organisation of African Unity, have rejected undemocratic and unconstitutional rule. It is a message worth reinforcing, both in the region and further north."

SOWETAN

Cabinet Ministers 'Choking on Money'—Ruth Bhengu writes in her "Heart Beat" column on page 10 of Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 29 August: "You do not have to know how much our cabinet ministers earn to see that they are almost choking on money. All you have to do is look at their inflated bodies." Bhengu also refers to the "advisers, secretaries, the drivers and the bodyguards who also have their share of this pie." Bhengu declares that "if I did not have to foot the bill for all these excesses I would not be bothered—Government could buy gold cutlery for millions and there wouldn't be a squeak from me. When I look at the amount of money Government takes from my salary every month, I get very angry and I feel helpless because there does not seem to be much I can do about it." "The present government should value the country's citizens and serve them with dignity. It should not take the people for granted. If it does not get its act together, a few years from now it will not be around to overpay itself."

Mandela Government 'Group of Fat Cats'—"President Nelson Mandela's government is fast gaining the image of a self-indulgent group of fat cats who do not care how they use other people's money," states a page 16 editorial. "They have not only plundered public coffers to give themselves obscenely huge salaries, but have pulled more passengers on to the gravy train as well." Mandela himself is earning "more than the president of the United States and Prime Minister of Britain." "Each of us earning a salary has been forced to sacrifice an extra five percent in tax to pay for the Reconstruction and Development Programme. It is a sacrifice that means we are earning less now than we earned before. When this hard-earned money is used to pay unrealistic salaries and what is perceived to be the extravagant excesses of this Government, it is demoralising, frustrating and quite sickening."

Angola**President Addresses Foreign Ministry Council**

MB2608080694 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 2000 GMT 25 Aug 94

[Speech by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the close of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Consultative Council meeting in Luanda on 25 August; on the "Special Page" program—recorded]

[Text] Distinguished government officials, your excellencies the ambassadors, ladies, and gentlemen: it has been a while since I addressed an audience such as this, made up of people who study and analyze international issues, and who produce the necessary data to help us develop a foreign policy. I am not here to deliver any lecture on the matter. I would just like to convey some points of view and make certain observations which I deem to be both useful and pertinent.

Our most highly qualified experts in issues pertaining to international politics and to Angola's bilateral and multilateral relations with the international community are bound to be here attending this meeting. I hope they will have reflected on those issues in accordance with our needs at this time. I hope they will have given their valuable contributions toward an in-depth analysis of the issues which have dominated this consultative meeting, the aim of which was—among other things—to improve organization in the Foreign Affairs Ministry and to seek a more dynamic approach for Angola's diplomatic work abroad. I also hope that those analyses will have enriched the findings of the seminar on foreign policy and diplomacy which was held some two and a half years ago. That seminar had drawn attention to the fact that our diplomacy needs to assert its usefulness as a tool in the quest for peace, equality, and social and economic development for the peoples of the world, as well as in the fight against injustice and interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states.

In truth, one of the principal problems confronting Angola is precisely continued foreign interference in its internal affairs. Persistent foreign involvement in the Angolan conflict, notably logistical and military support for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] by certain countries in this region. Such support can only fan the war—or, rather, the armed rebellion—which UNITA has been waging against the legitimate and democratically elected government of Angola. Such foreign interference has been made easier by a group of Angolans at the head of that armed party. Their limitless greed for power renders them indifferent to all forms of human suffering.

The war has led to serious and profound social and economic crises characterized by a rising inflation currently hitting everyone very hard. It is, in fact, negative and unacceptable interference bearing, in every regard, the vestiges of an obsolete world order. The elimination

of such a world order must be speeded up for that very reason. During the cold war—which has only just ended—the various countries which make up our world were separate of their own deliberate and sovereign volition. They fell into opposed ideological blocs. Aware of its sacred interests and of the sovereignty it has known how to preserve, the Angolan State assumed a certain stance during the cold war. Our country was then the target for wars it did not provoke. The same happened with other countries in the region which sought to assert their beliefs in national liberation and in Africa's political emancipation.

In all those wars, the states and political forces in the region sought strategic or tactical alliances that would best see their interests served. UNITA did not serve the liberation cause. Rather, it was used by foreign forces that sought to perpetuate domination, oppression, and exploitation of the Angolan people. In the interim, the cold war came to its end and so did the two ideological blocs. The world was no longer, so to say, led by two superpowers. Instead it began its transition toward a multipolar system.

Despite the fact that it was obvious and inevitable that a single superpower would have decisive influence over international affairs, such a transition was both logical and understandable, if for no other reason because no country alone can master our planet's fate. There are other elements surfacing today both in the context of the global and the regional scenarios. Those new elements are beginning to shape the new international and regional orders.

The enemies of yesterday are the partners of today. In many instances, they have even become friends. Alliances of a political or ideological nature have been broken off. The convergence of interests among states is now guided by political and economic interests as well as international cooperation.

It is not the ideological struggle that is the order of the day inside each state anymore. Peace, democracy, human rights, other fundamental freedoms, political stability, national reconciliation, reconstruction, social and economic development, and prosperity are the principal interests inside each state now. Perhaps the trend now is for a new national, regional, and international political order.

The national political order is founded on democracy and the market economy adjusted to national realities. The regional political order presupposes stability and security, the creation of a common space and of joint intervention mechanisms, and the balanced conjugation and division of interests. It has been within this context that interstate political and economic groups and associations have emerged. Economic power is increasingly important and military power is increasingly less so.

The elements which will shape the new international order will perhaps see clusters of states around one or

more economic powers, following various forms of association or integration; the readjustment of the United Nations in its structure and in its role as the guarantor of peace, disarmament, international security, and ecological protection; the consolidation of values of a universal political culture influenced by social and economic liberalism and disseminated thanks to the important and growing role of the media and of telecommunications in helping to bring the different peoples closer together, and so on.

It is in this changing world that our diplomatic institutions must do their work and take on the role of forward posts in the defense of the national interest in their relations with other states, nations, and regional as well as international institutions.

The precondition for accepting such responsibilities is to have good moral values and technical skills. One must have the ability to lead. One must know how to obey and how to make others obey. One must have a zealous and disciplined approach to work, both in individual and collective situations, and one must have appropriate knowledge. Even though Angola is not particularly well understood abroad—principally because of insufficient information and perhaps because others do not know much about our current politics—the Foreign Affairs Ministry has done its best to fulfill its attributions. Some of our diplomats have made significant efforts to represent the country and defend its interests with dignity. We have noticed a great improvement in its working conditions over the last few years. Nevertheless, we hope it will continue making every effort to improve its organization and services both inside and outside the country.

As the organ responsible for overseeing diplomatic work and implementing the foreign policy principles as enshrined in the Constitutional Law, the Foreign Affairs Ministry must make its structures even more flexible and functional. It must improve the quality of its diplomatic and administrative personnel in its central and foreign departments. Personnel selection and promotion criteria must be both objective and uniform, and it must be done on the basis of public competition and other clear procedures, thereby lending greater dignity, authority, and prestige to diplomatic careers and duties both inside and outside the country.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry's improved internal functioning is an urgent prerequisite to guarantee effective communication links with external executive organs and to follow up the work, to discipline, and even to guide other government departments responsible for actions that bind the country to external commitments. The Foreign Affairs Ministry neither should nor must be inactive and resign its duty as the organ responsible for all external action by the Angolan Government or on its behalf. On the contrary: the Foreign Affairs Ministry must promptly assume such duties and strengthen its authority in that sphere. For that reason, it is important that it should proceed to decentralize attributions to

geopolitical areas [as heard], so they can fulfill their true roles in defining policies and guidelines for external executive organs subordinate to the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Within this context, it is worth noting that there has been a reduction in party influence over the principles guiding the public administration of foreign policy and diplomatic affairs. Such a measure has been implemented in accordance with the new rules of democratic and multi-party coexistence now in force in the country. By the same token, a diplomatic statute and other mechanisms must be created that will ensure all diplomats are obliged to implement the state's foreign policy, irrespective of their political beliefs or party membership.

The Angolan people living abroad are right to demand greater attention from their government. Diplomatic and consular missions abroad have the duty always to take care of registering those citizens whenever they so desire and also to afford them consular protection. They must do so without taking into account political or party considerations and they must create the right conditions that will ensure constant links with the fatherland.

Your Excellencies the ambassadors, ladies, and gentlemen: as I pointed out earlier, our world is undergoing a process of transition. I am certain that Angolan diplomacy as a whole will continue to strive for peace and stability in our region, in the rest of Africa, and in the world, thereby making an increasingly effective contribution toward Angola's rapid integration in the world's new political and economic order.

It will also strive to overcome obstacles and work to allow the country rapidly to obtain the foreign means and resources it needs to rebuild, grow, and achieve economic development, as well as to dissuade and neutralize eventual foreign aggression, or acts of internal destabilization promoted and supported by foreign sources. Our diplomats will not be lacking in skills or creativity so they can manage correctly the country's political and economic openness to the world, so that openness can lead to Angola's growth and development, as well as increased prosperity for the Angolan people. With the recent approval of new legal documents concerning economic issues—notably the Law on Privatization, the Law on Definition of Economic Activity Sectors, and the Law on Foreign Investment—a viable and realistic framework has been defined whereby the work of our diplomats can help secure resources that will help strengthen the national economy. Their contribution will be especially important in terms of increasing national wealth and property, thereby helping the building and growth of an increasingly strong national entrepreneurial sector capable of fulfilling its role in the national development effort and in matters of cooperation with other countries.

One of the possible ways in which to do so is to create the right conditions for the entrepreneurial sector to have access to foreign nonrepayable financing or financing at special interest rates.

Your Excellencies the ambassadors: This Foreign Affairs Ministry Consultative Council meeting has been held at a time when skepticism pervades some public service sectors and some sections of civilian society concerning the feasibility of the government's Social and Economic Program. It is not up to me to make pronouncements on the results of that program. The government will certainly announce those results in good time. The Council of Ministers is due to assess soon the implementation of the Social and Economic Program in the first half of this year. That program, which arose from wide consensus, was discussed in depth with the organized section of civilian society, within the government, and within the National Assembly. At the time, I warned that even though the program was consistent and its intentions good, the measures it prescribed were harsh. Nevertheless, we all accepted them because they were necessary and because alternatives were not easily perceptible. Today, people ask whether calculations were correct and whether the government's Social and Economic Program is being correctly implemented—in other words, whether its implementation follows consistent and logical standards that will allow the best possible results to be achieved as soon as possible. No one can give that answer with absolute certainty—not for the time being, at any rate. The Council of Ministers intends to make an assessment in September, before the government submits its assessment report on the first half of this year for approval by the National Assembly.

I think that when it makes its assessment, the government will take into account the concerns, criticisms, suggestions, and answers advanced by the workers and associations. All valid ideas and contributions will be welcome if they help reduce and maintain inflation at expected levels and if they help raise the salaries of workers and their real buying power. I do not wish to take sides, but all are aware that my sympathies are with the theories that have been advanced by certain sections of civilian society and the government itself. Their aim is to create incentives for the industrial and agricultural sectors, so production and internal supply will increase. In other words, inflation must be attacked by reducing and eliminating the undue issuing of money and, principally, by increasing the internal supply of merchandise. It is important to draw the people's attention to the fact that there will not be increased wealth without increased production, just as there will not be increased profits on which to impose taxes. It will also mean that neither salaries nor public administration service budgets will increase. This is not the place to hold appropriate discussions on this matter. Nevertheless, I am aware that the problem of low financial resources also affects the functioning of diplomatic and consular missions abroad. Thus, there is the need to expand dialogue and the government has already expressed a willingness to engage in such dialogue. I would like to praise that stand because common denominators can only be found through dialogue, organized and orderly talks, and

efforts to achieve consensus without resorting to any kind of excesses, or radical, or yet extremist behavior.

Ladies and gentlemen: our country continues to experience a turbulent political and military situation that has been caused by UNITA's inflexible stance and its choice of war and violence to settle political issues. In the discharge of its sovereign powers, which were achieved and made legitimate by the free and fair elections of September 1992, the Angolan Government has tried to demonstrate that such a strategy will never pay off. By the same token, it has tried to convince UNITA to adopt a constructive stand that will safeguard national unity, territorial integrity, and the established democratic order. Despite all that, UNITA has not shown any intention to abandon its warmongering behavior so it can fully assume its responsibilities as a political party, thereby stopping once and for all its attempts on the lives of citizens, their property, and national security.

The government and UNITA have been involved in peace talks in the Zambian capital for more than nine months. Those talks have not ended yet because UNITA continues to resort to various ploys to delay peace and national reconciliation, all the time reorganizing in a bid to take over by force.

The latest such ploy has sought to involve the South African Government. That ploy has two aims: first, it wants breathing space to try and avoid UN Security Council sanctions and, second, it seeks to implement its plan to abandon the framework of the Lusaka peace talks so new talks can begin, inspired by the South African model. This will happen in the event that it is unable to grab power by force.

UNITA's reading of the situation in the country is that the economic situation has deteriorated a great deal and that unhappiness among workers and the people at large will result in revolt that will help UNITA overthrow the elected government. The international community and our people should not allow themselves to be deceived yet again. An immediate solution will not be forthcoming from Lusaka unless pressure on UNITA is increased so that it unambiguously accepts the proposals made by the mediator and stops the war of aggression against the people and the government.

Military pressure by the Angolan Armed Forces, FAA, must be added to such political and diplomatic pressure. That is the only way to make Jonas Savimbi's UNITA accept a peaceful, just, and negotiated settlement to the Angolan conflict.

Your Excellencies, ladies, and gentlemen: it is this same type of solution—through dialogue and political consensus—that we would like to see applied to all conflicts currently under way in the world and in particular those now ravaging our continent and those where the ineffectiveness of armed conflict has become patently clear. I am referring in particular to the unfolding tragedy in Rwanda, where hundreds of thousands of innocent

people have met with violent deaths for ethnic reasons. UNITA and other dark forces would like to see such conditions reproduced in this country. Unfortunately, that same violence continues to be the sole acceptable language in the conflict that has beset Bosnia-Herzegovina, where the same ethnic pretexts are used to justify the continuing war and the wholesale massacre of the population.

Important steps have been taken in the direction of peace and stabler coexistence among the peoples of the Middle East, thereby lending reason to those who have always encouraged dialogue and reasoning. We recognize the right of peoples in other tense areas of the globe to resolve their problems by themselves. We condemn foreign interference as is happening in East Timor. We hereby salute the successes of all those who have recognized that democracy and pluralism are the best ways to settle their internal problems.

Your Excellencies the ambassadors: the aims and principles of internal and foreign policies are defined in the Constitutional Law. The Foreign Affairs Ministry regularly conveys our position on specific issues. Thus, the mission of Angolan diplomacy is to create a climate that will encourage deeper friendship and cooperation ties with all peoples and states of the worlds on the basis of the principles enshrined in the UN Charter.

Cooperation is an important part of our foreign policy, which must be pursued in a pragmatic manner by placing state interests above all else. Priority in the areas of trade, investment, and cooperation must be given to countries or economic and financial groups that can help rebuild and develop our economy within the shortest possible time. It is also important to push for Angola to play an ever more active role in regional efforts for economic reintegration and to create cooperation mechanisms and common security systems. By the same token, efforts should be made to ensure that Angola plays a greater role in the functioning and management of international and regional organizations to which it belongs. This must be done by selecting Angolan cadres with the necessary skills to be placed in those organizations. It follows that we cannot disregard internal organization issues, notably the place and role of the body responsible for coordinating cooperation within an institutional framework, so it can achieve the desired goals.

Finally, it is only just that we should take this opportunity to pay homage to many countries and organizations that have given us humanitarian aid, thereby reducing our all too visible shortages in the areas of food, shelter, medical care, and other needs of displaced people who have lost virtually everything they had because of the war. Unfortunately, such humanitarian aid is not yet enough for all. Wherever they may be, our diplomats are hereby urged to make stronger calls for more aid.

I would also like to praise the positive role that has been played by the countries that have been observers in the Angolan peace process so far: the United States, the

Russian Federation, and Portugal. Praise is also due to UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye, who has not spared any effort to try and bring the warring factions closer together and to reduce differences between them. Angolan diplomacy has an important role to play in the effort to increase Angola's prestige among the nations of the world.

I sincerely hope that all those present will be seriously and patriotically committed to that honorable mission. I wish you all success in your duties.

Long live Angola! [audience responds: "Long live!"]

Long live Angola! [audience responds: "Long live!"]

Angola will triumph!

Thank you very much. [applause]

UNITA Official Reacts to dos Santos' Speech

MB2708190694 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Interview with UNITA spokesperson Jorge Valentim by Joao van Dunem; place and date not given; from the "Last Minute" program—recorded]

[Text] [Valentim] We consider the statements from the president of the Republic, who is also chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]—the party which has the majority in Parliament—as very serious, since they will increase distrust among Angolans as well as create an atmosphere of misunderstanding here in Lusaka. They will also increase skepticism in some Angolan circles who doubt the government's goodwill. We know that the military wing will increase war, and we have heard from well-informed diplomatic circles that the government is planning massive air raids on Huambo and Soyo with highly potent bombs, and this is contradictory to the spirit of the negotiations, taking into account the fact that we are about to conclude the talks.

[Van Dunem] Will your delegation remain in the negotiations even with these statements of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos?

[Valentim] We will remain in the talks, but we will act in accordance with what the government will bring into the negotiating table, and its attitude.

[Van Dunem] Are you optimistic or pessimist about the outcome of the Angolan peace process?

[Valentim] I am doubtful now. I have been very optimistic, but statements of this nature, at the level we are in, lead us to raise questions on the outcome of the talks.

[Van Dunem] Do you believe [words indistinct] between these statements of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the letter which the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leadership received from the US Government in which the United States says that

it will impose sanctions against UNITA should it not accept the observers' proposals?

[Valentim] I would like to take this opportunity to tell the U.S. Government and congress members that they should be careful when making statements because they can be interpreted as a white card for massacres and genocide in Angola.

[Van Dunem] But do you believe that UNITA is responsible for the fact that a peace accord has not been signed?

[Valentim] No, it is not. We have been contributing considerably toward achieving peace. After the negotiations people will see how we contributed intellectually and politically toward the signing of a peace agreement.

[Van Dunem] Dr. Valentim, the fact that UNITA is alone against the world, does it not seem that something is wrong with UNITA's strategy?

[Valentim] We have friends. However, the problem is that Angola is very rich, and there are countries which are tired now and want a market in Angola, thus, they want peace at any cost. They no longer want a just peace.

Observers Concerned About UNITA Threats To Leave Lusaka

MB2608170094 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] The negotiating framework did not change this morning. Diplomats in the Zambian capital are concerned about statements of some National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] officials, and the negotiators are still awaiting to hear from the mediators who are making efforts to overcome issues pertaining to the new UNAVEM [UN Angola Verification Mission]-3 mandate, the role of the observers, and the mechanisms that will replace the Joint Political and Military Commission. UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye and the troika of observers are still drafting the new intermediate document on those issues, which will soon be handed over to the government and UNITA negotiators.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources in Lusaka are concerned about the statements by some UNITA officials made public over the past few days in different European capitals saying that Jonas Savimbi's movement would leave Lusaka should the UN Security Council implement an additional package of sanctions. The sources added that it is inconceivable that the extraordinary efforts made over the past few months by the mediator, troika of observers, and the negotiators, as well as the intervention of distinguished figures in the Angolan peace process, are disregarded by one man, Jonas Savimbi, who is still challenging everyone, including the United Nations. The sources added that in this context, it is more and more imperative that the international community take

a firm position and pressure UNITA and its leader Jonas Savimbi to accept unambiguously the mediator's proposal on its participation in government, to facilitate the course of the current round of talks to its speedy conclusion to permit the Angolan people to face the future with confidence.

Mediator Hands Document To Negotiating Teams

MB2608204294 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Report by correspondent Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] There was no progress in the talks in the Zambian capital this afternoon. UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye, who is mediating the process, has already handed over to the government and National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] negotiators the new intermediate document, which sources close to the talks describe as acceptable. The document will serve as base for the discussions on issues regarding the UNAVEM [UN Angola Verification Mission]-3, the role of the observers, and the mechanisms that will replace the Joint Political and Military Commission, CCPM. The government representatives did not lose time and met immediately to analyze the contents of the document. It is presumed that the government negotiating team will tomorrow respond to the document. The UNITA negotiators also met to reflect upon the mediator's intermediate document. Since the ball is now on the court of the negotiators, the mediator and troika of observers from the United States, Portugal, and Russia await the development of events.

Botswana

President Ketumile Masire Dissolves Parliament

MB2608164094 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1610 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] We have just received the news that the president, Sir Ketumile Masire, has dissolved Parliament. The dissolution is with effect from today, 26 August. The Office of the President says the notice to this effect will appear in today's Extraordinary Government Gazette. I will just repeat that: The president, Sir Ketumile Masire, has dissolved Parliament, and the dissolution is with effect from today, 26 August. Notice to this effect will appear in today's Extraordinary Government Gazette.

Lesotho

King Letsie III Reportedly Intends To Abdicate

MB2608180894 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 28 Aug 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] King Letsie III of Lesotho is back home from Pretoria with a flea in his ear. Yesterday, Presidents

Mandela, Mugabe, and Masire told him with no if's and but's to reconsider his suspension of the constitution and dissolution of parliament and the sacking of the elected government of Ntsu Mokhehle last week. They gave him a week to restore democracy in Lesotho or face their wrath. Ever since the king's drastic action, there has been a ground swell of protest in Lesotho, and much speculation that it was a back door coup d'etat backed by opposition leader Evaristus Sekhonyana. On the line to Maseru, Elizabeth Ohene asked Mr. Sekhonyana what the response would be to the ultimatum from the presidents.

[Begin recording] [Sekhonyana] The king has already, from what I have understood today, has already appointed some people to try to mediate, to try to get Dr. Mokhehle to the talks, without any conditions, of course, and the most important thing is really to try to listen to Dr. Mokhehle, and for the friends of Lesotho, to try to urge both the king—he has already said that he has got open hands as far as this is concerned—and Dr. Mokhehle to come to the table, and to be able to sort out this issue. It is not the distant onlookers who are going to clear the situation internally.

[Ohene] Are you hopeful that Dr. Mokhehle will come and talk to the king?

[Sekhonyana] Well, you know, as I have said, I do not think that there is an incentive, of course, on the part of Dr. Mokhehle to talk to the king, but then, actually fair enough, if he doesn't, how do we implement, of course the coming back into power of government by Dr. Mokhehle? How is it going to be done? At the end of the day, it will still be done by the king and Dr. Mokhehle, at the very end of the day, whatever formula one looks at.

[Ohene] Are you fearful that South Africa and the other southern African nations might impose sanctions on you?

[Sekhonyana] Well, madam, the point is that it is not really automatic that sanctions have got to be there. We are having a problem, a very serious problem, and I said, it is a problem of 30 years ago. We don't get a single person who is coming with a constructive solution. I am saying the problems which have bedeviled Lesotho since independence are again surfacing, and this is the formula we have to take. Condemnations, madam, are not going to help; sanctions are not going to help. The problems are endemic, and friends of Lesotho are not going to side; real friends of Lesotho will try to talk to both parties to try to find a settlement. It is not sanctions. Even if King Letsie were to get away from power, from being a king, the problems (?for this) government will remain as endemic as they were before. This is the message we are trying to say to our leaders on the subcontinent. President Mandela, President Mugabe, President Masire are very, very important people in our region. We cannot take their pronouncements lightly, but I am sure, at the end of the day they will also realize that it is not a

question of sanctions. They have to mediate, and that is the only way we can get Lesotho again together and be viable. [end recording]

A short time ago another government official, Hae Phoofoolo, reiterated that King Letsie III will abdicate, he said, probably next week, and reinstate his father.

Foreign Minister Urges Lasting Peace, Stability

MB2608170394 Maseru Radio Lesotho in English 1600 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] The honorable minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Retselisitsoe Sekhonyana, says all parties should join hands and participate to attain lasting peace and stability in the country.

Speaking at a press conference in Maseru today, the foreign minister indicated that it was imperative for all Basotho from all walks of life to project patriotism and engage in truthful and peaceful negotiations to resolve Lesotho's current crisis.

He said if all could bury their differences and endeavor to work towards a peaceful political settlement for the good of the country and people. [sentence as heard] The minister said strikes and stay-aways will only harm businesses in this country and will make all suffer.

Mozambique

Chissano on Need To Consolidate Peace, National Unity

MB2608175894 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Report by Antonio Barros in Quelimane]

[Text] [Announcer] President Joaquim Chissano's visit to Zambezia Province will conclude today. [passage indistinct]

[Begin Chissano recording] [passage indistinct] This gives the impression that Zambezia Province is a powder keg waiting to go off at any moment and dismember the entire country. That is not what I found here, however. Here in Zambezia Province, I found people who want a united Mozambique and who are willing to work. We found people who received us with great affection. We do not want to go into detail about the significance of this affection. What is certain, however, is that it contradicts everything bad said about Zambezia Province.

I am used to this kind of affection. Every time I come to Zambezia, I am accorded the same kind of affection. During my present visit, I found different kinds of discussions—political and economic negotiations. For me, these discussions were constructive. Even grievances were presented in a constructive manner by all groups with which I had an opportunity to hold contacts. I also held contacts with religious figures from different denominations. They, too, accorded me the same kind of

affection. I held meetings with citizens who, in one way or another, represent the traditional authority in different areas I visited.

All this reveals that the Zambezia provincial government cadres are doing good work—from the governor to directors. It reveals that there is good work being carried by the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] cadres, who have been putting into practice the party's thinking and political line, which aim at creating a spirit of national unity and reconstruction and consolidating peace so that we can construct a better future. [end recording]

[Announcer] During his speech, President Chissano called on all Mozambicans to continue with the same enthusiasm evidenced so far. This will help create an atmosphere of peace for the forthcoming general elections, so that the political contest does not become a source for division.

Chissano was speaking last night during a dinner hosted by the local officials. On the occasion, the president left a message: to consolidate peace, national reconciliation, national unity, national reconstruction, and the country's development with the participation of all Mozambicans, regardless of their political beliefs.

The president of the republic called on Zambezia residents to register as voters so that they can exercise their right during the first multiparty elections in Mozambique, which must definitely be held on 27 and 28 October.

In Zambezia Province, President Joaquim Chissano visited the districts of Milange, Maganja da Costa, Namacurra, Nicoadala, and Namacata.

Renamo's Dhlakama Holds News Conference on Situation

Demands National Unity Government

MB2608200994 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Report by Ezequiel Mavota on news conference by Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama in Maputo on 26 August—italicized passages recorded]

[Text] [Mavota] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama is demanding an agreement for the establishment of a government of national unity. At a news conference in Maputo today, Dhlakama said this agreement should be reached by 25 September 1994. Ezequiel Mavota has further details:

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama today rekindled the polemic on the government of national unity. He said he is now fighting for a government of national reconciliation and demands that an agreement on Mozambique's political future after the elections be reached by 25 September.

[Dhlakama] *I am not saying this in a position of weakness. On the contrary, I am saying it in a position of strength.*

[Mavota] Afonso Dhlakama, who said he is negotiating with other political parties, including the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] Party, on a government of national reconciliation, said he does not believe that someone could win elections in Mozambique and form a government alone. He added that if Renamo wins the elections, it will invite other parties to take part in a government of national reconciliation.

During today's news conference, Afonso Dhlakama expressed disappointment with the work carried out by the police of the Republic of Mozambique. He went as far as to say both the National Commission for Police Affairs and the UN Civil Police are not operating adequately. He also said the police force has a hidden army. He said he hoped that the after the General Peace Accord there would be upgrading courses for policemen.

The Renamo leader once again insisted on the establishment of an economic and social council so that, according to his words, it can control the abusive use of state funds by the Frelimo government. He said the government must henceforth abandon the use of state funds for its electoral campaign.

Dhlakama also said that he did not like the speech made by President Joaquim Chissano when he visited Maganja da Costa in Zambezia Province a few days ago. The Renamo leader said Chissano said during his speech that Dhlakama could not resume war because his supporters—the apartheid system in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia's Smith, and Malawi's Banda—have been crushed.

[Dhlakama] *I would just like to inform all journalists, particularly Mozambican journalists, that I did not like the speech made by brother Joaquim Chissano. He made an infantile and provocative speech. I think it was not properly pondered. If Smith gave weapons to Renamo, it is because we asked for them. If the apartheid system gave weapons to Renamo, it is because we requested those weapons. Similarly, the USSR gave weapons to Frelimo because they asked for them. Mugabe sent 25 [figure as heard] troops, who were killing our people because Samora Machel and Chissano knelt before Mugabe. I think the neighboring countries want peace in the region. I do not believe that Mugabe, Mandela, or the Malawian president liked Chissano's speech. I will ask them. We also have diplomatic relations with them. We shall want to know what our future will be, since the head of state says they are his friends. What about us who have no friends? Who knows if they are agreeing to stifle us here in Mozambique. I want to know what Mandela thinks about the Mozambican politics.*

[Mavota] Afonso Dhlakama also spoke about the media. This time, he praised journalists for their work but he said that he does not like the directors of these information organs:

[Dhlakama] We shall demand that a body be established, because at this moment, we know that certain radio and television directors here in Mozambique are members and leaders of the Frelimo Party. I think during the electoral period, these gentlemen should go on leave.

[Mavota] Afonso Dhlakama suggested that during the electoral period, a board should be established to manage the media and the present directors should go on leave. The Renamo leader also said he will soon present his candidacy to the National Elections Commission and reiterated that his party is ready for the elections set for 27 and 28 October.

Concerned Over Post-Election

MB2608205394 Maputo TVM Television Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Excerpts] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama wants a political agreement to be reached by 25 September on the country's future after the elections. At a news conference at his residence in Maputo this afternoon, Dhlakama once again demanded the establishment of a government of national unity after the elections. The Renamo leader said: We can change the name and call it a government of national reconciliation, for example. [passage omitted]

The Renamo leader said his insistence on a government of national unity should not be viewed as a weakness on the part of Renamo, which, he stressed, is a deep-rooted party throughout the country. He said his fear is what will happen to the country 24 hours after the elections.

[Begin Dhlakama recording] My concern is not to be the president of this country. I am looking to the future. My concern is what will happen 24 hours after the elections. My concern is not to be in the palace or to be a minister. My concern is what will happen after the elections. [end recording]

At the news conference, Dhlakama expressed concern about public security. He said the police of the Republic are biased. He also strongly criticized the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and its chairman Joaquim Chissano, whom he accused of using public funds to finance his electoral campaign.

Criticizes Chissano

MB2708201694 Maputo TVM Television Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 27 Aug 94

[Excerpts] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama reacted violently to President Joaquim Chissano's remarks in Zambezia Province. Dhlakama said President Chissano not only visited Zambezia Province on a Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] electoral campaign, using state funds, but he also made provocative remarks against Renamo. Afonso Dhlakama was speaking at a news conference at his residence in Maputo yesterday. [passage omitted]

[Begin Dhlakama recording] No one is afraid of Frelimo but we respect it as a party. No one is afraid of Chissano but we respect him as the head of state. This is the message I have for the Mozambican people. Renamo will not allow the kind of speeches made by Chissano. For example, to say, as a head of state, that Renamo will no longer resume war because the people who supplied weapons to Renamo have now disappeared. Ian Smith who gave weapons to Renamo is no longer in power. Now the leader is Mugabe, who is his friend.

This was in the newspaper. He said that dictator Banda, who gave weapons to Renamo, is no longer in power. There is a new leader in power who is his friend. The apartheid system which gave weapons to Renamo no longer exists. The man in power there is Frelimo's friend. I think it is a very sad thing for a head of state to make this kind of speech.

We can believe that we have been confined. Renamo has been confined and therefore it has no future in Mozambique because its supporters have been dislodged and replaced by friends of President Chissano and Frelimo. We can draw this type of conclusion. If this is the case, then we are in danger in our region. If this is the situation, we shall prepare ourselves to react. We have the capacity to react to Frelimo's acts of provocation. Our reaction will not be to return to the bush. What I am doing now is reaction. This will be our violence. It will not be through AK-47's, guns, armored cars, or MiGs. We shall react in this way, making the Mozambican people understand that Chissano is wrong. [end recording]

Chissano Rules Out Preelection Accord With Renamo

MB2708144094 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 27 Aug 94

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has excluded any previous agreement on Mozambique's political future after the elections, as advocated by Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama. Asked today to comment on Dhlakama's statement, Chissano emphatically said and we quote, that is up to him. He knows what he will do, unquote. The president of the Republic said that it is clear that no agreement can be reached before the elections. Afonso Dhlakama said the agreement on the country's future should be reached by 25 September.

Regarding Afonso Dhlakama's suggestion that the radio and television directors should be replaced because they are Frelimo members, President Joaquim Chissano said Radio Mozambique General Director Manuel Tome is about to be replaced but he does not see any reason why the Mozambique Television director should be replaced.

President Chissano Addresses Rally in Quelimane

MB2608202494 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] President of the Republic Joaquim Chissano returned to Maputo late this afternoon, after a working visit to Zambezia Province. Before returning to Maputo, Joaquim Chissano presided over a rally in the city of Quelimane. Antonio Barros reports.

[Begin recording] [Barros] Joaquim Chissano, president of the Republic of Mozambique, who concluded his five-day visit to Zambezia Province this afternoon, once again said there is no room for the resumption of war in Mozambique. Chissano was addressing a mass rally attended by about 40,000 citizens from different wards of the provincial capital of Zambezia. He branded as pure lies and useless tactics, the rumors—meant to intimidate the people—that those who do not vote for Renamo would be creating conditions for the resumption of war.

The Mozambican head of state said the sources of support for Renamo's war against the country have been closed down and the neighboring countries and the Mozambican people do not want another war. President Joaquim Chissano said voting should be a free, conscious, and secret act. He said even witch doctors will not know who voted for whom and, what is more, the elections will be witnessed by representatives of the international community. Chissano urged Zambezia residents to participate in national reconciliation through dialogue and tolerance. He also called on the residents of the region to take part in eliminating all hotbeds of violence. Accordingly, the president of the Republic called for the involvement of citizens in collecting weapons from illegal hands.

[Chissano] We would like to inform you today that we have already demobilized the armed forces. We have demobilized the government armed forces and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] guerrillas. They have all been demobilized and have handed their weapons to the government for safekeeping. No demobilized soldier is allowed to move about with a weapon. We are training a new army. We are training a smaller army, which will defend the country against foreign attack. If our country is attacked by any foreign country, this army will defend the country. If the country is not attacked, this army will be organized so that it can assist us in the country's reconstruction program. This army will have weapons, but these weapons will be used according to regulations. Soldiers will not be allowed to move about in the city or in the countryside carrying weapons. Weapons will be kept at appropriate places in the barracks.

Any former soldier, any demobilized soldier, or any former Renamo guerrilla carrying a weapon is doing so illegally. There are people who have neither been government soldiers nor Renamo guerrillas but carried

weapons in order to defend themselves, to defend their families, and to assist in the country's defense. They, too, must return the weapons and hand them over to the police. All sorts of weapons, big or small, must be handed over to the police. We do not want to see people move about with weapons. Only the police are allowed to possess weapons. Even the police must use weapons for a specific purpose. They are not allowed to move about with a weapon when they are off duty. When there are many weapons in the hands of the people, the crime rate, murders, and thefts increase. That is why we do not want to see people carrying weapons illegally. Thus, we call on all Mozambicans to assist the police and the government in this activity aimed at collecting weapons. [end recording]

President Joaquim Chissano also spoke about the serious problems facing the country and the gigantic effort made by the government to resolve them. Chissano called on the people not to believe in false promises because, according to the head of state, there are no magic solutions, despite what others have said. What is needed is the involvement of all citizens in the national reconstruction—their efforts, perseverance, and patriotic love.

The president of the Republic mentioned a series of measures in the field of health, education, and social promotion being carried out by the government, including the reconstruction of schools, clinics, commercial networks, bridges and roads, and industrial units.

Namibia**Reportage on Nambian Prime Minister's Visit to Cuba**

WA290814894

For reportage on the visit of Namibian Prime Minister Hage G. Geingob to Cuba, including his talks with Cuban Deputy Foreign Minister Isabel Allende and his tour of Cuba, please see the 23 August Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Zimbabwe**South African President Nelson Mandela Visits****Opens Agricultural Show**

MB2608172494 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] Cooperation in sharing water resources and improving transportation and harbor facilities are priorities in South Africa's new approach to the development of southern Africa. That's the message President Nelson Mandela gave the Zimbabwean people at the country's annual agricultural show in Harare.

[Begin SABC correspondent Linda van Tilburg recording] Economic and diplomatic relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe have come a long way. Once

South Africa's bitter foe, Zimbabwe has since the election opened its arms to South Africa. Shops are full with South African goods, and South Africa has been allowed, for the first time in almost a decade, to exhibit at the annual Harare Agricultural Show. President Mandela opened the show this afternoon. He jabbed cattle, inspected stalls and a South African exhibition, amid intense interest in his presence.

President Mugabe told TV news that he was delighted to have Mr. Mandela in his country, but this courtesy was not extended to all South Africans. The SABC's [South African Broadcasting Corporation] TV team was kept at the airport for three hours, was asked a hundred thousand rands deposit for TV equipment, and was continuously stopped and questioned by the Zimbabwean police. Last night Mr. Mandela attended a banquet in the Zimbabwean capital, held in his honor. The two leaders indicated that included in their countries future plans were efforts to improve relations between Zimbabwe and South Africa, and that they wanted to attend to problems affecting the southern African subcontinent. [end recording]

Mandela Departs

*MB2708150794 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0456 GMT 27 Aug 94*

[Text] Harare Aug 25 SAPA—South African President Nelson Mandela left Harare on Friday afternoon the owner of a 16-month Brahman bull, ZIANA news agency reports. Mr. Mandela, who opened the 84th annual Harare agricultural show, was given the bull, valued at ZD20,000 [Zimbabwean dollars], by local farmer, opposition politician and academic Dr Themba Dhlodhlo. A spokesman said the bull will be presented to the Eastern Transvaal for breeding purposes.

Mr. Mandela, on his first official visit to Zimbabwe since coming to power in May, told his hosts the greatest challenge facing his government was the redistribution of land. He said South Africa was keenly interested in Zimbabwe's experience in dealing with inherited distortions in the ownership of land.

Mr. Mandela was seen off at Harare International Airport by President Robert Mugabe and senior government officials and military chiefs.

Guinea

President Conte Completes Cabinet Reshuffle

*AB2708163794 Paris AFP in English 1010 GMT
27 Aug 94*

[Text] Conakry, Aug 27 (AFP)—Guinean President Lansana Conte on Saturday [27 August] reappointed Lieutenant-Colonel Abdourahmane Diallo as the country's defense minister four days after reshuffling the government of the West African state, officials said.

Kazaliou Balde was named minister of economic and financial control.

Television director Alpha Camara was named high commissioner for information and Sidi Cissoko, a former regional governor, was named high commissioner for tourism.

Fassou Louya, a former minister for administrative reform and the civil service, was made Conte's secretary general.

The four posts had not been filled in a reshuffle Tuesday.

No members of the opposition are included in the new cabinet, made up of 23 ministers and two high commissioners.

Liberia

National Unity Peace Conference Continues

Kpomakpor Urges 'Concrete Proposals'

*AB2608124294 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900
GMT 26 Aug 94*

[Text] The chairman of the Council of State, His Excellency David Kpomakpor, has challenged the participants of the ensuing national conference to come up with concrete proposals that will help end the Liberian crisis. Addressing participants at the conference yesterday at the Unity Conference Center, Chairman Kpomakpor said the conference must adequately address those issues that continue to impede the search for lasting peace in a bid to finding a common solution to the nation's nightmare. He recalled that numerous sacrifices have been made by the international community in material and human resources and said it was now time that Liberians took the destiny of their country into their own hands. The Liberian leader said the fact that Liberians from all walks of life can congregate to discuss the future of their country is a significant indicator of their resolve to dialogue and reconcile their differences and begin the process of national reconstruction.

Also speaking yesterday the special envoy of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] chairman, General Arnold Quainoo, reiterated the community's continued commitment and support to efforts by Liberians to

end the civil war. The former ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] force commander, however, expressed ECOWAS' disappointment at the slow pace of the peace process and said while ECOWAS would provide military and other support to the peace process, it will not continue to support ECOMOG in Liberia indefinitely.

For his part, the United Nations envoy to Liberia, Ambassador Trevor Gordon-Somers said the conference was a forum where Liberians could reconcile their differences and not one intended to change the Cotonou Accord which provides the best framework for the resolution of the Liberian conflict. He said it was only important that Liberians dialogue on how best they could make the transitional government function well instead of changing it. Ambassador Somers said as the conference progresses, the international community will continue to hold discussions with the warring factions so that the conference will produce a good result. The representative of the OAU secretary general, Reverend Canaan Banana, said Liberia is at the crossroads of life and death, and urged Liberians to let bygones be bygones so that Liberia can maintain her position at the Comity of Nations.

Also speaking, former interim president of Liberia, Dr. Amos Sawyer spoke of the need to have all parties to the conflict represented at the conference so that the conference will achieve its desired objectives.

Among delegates representing political parties, [words indistinct], and labor unions were those of the National Patriotic Party, United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia, and the Armed Forces of Liberia.

Conference Adjourned

*AB2608175094 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 26 Aug 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The first day of Liberia's national unity peace conference in Monrovia yesterday was rather overshadowed by reports of fierce fighting between forces of Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] on one side, and those of ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and the Liberian [Peace] Council, LPC, on the other, at Gbarnga, which is Charles Taylor's headquarters; and the seats reserved for the leaders of Liberia's warring factions at the conference were perhaps embarrassingly empty. Well, now the conference organizers have decided to adjourn the meeting. From Liberia, Nyenati Allison telexed this report.

The national conference has been suspended to allow for time to persuade warlords to attend the conference. A 10-man committee of tribal chiefs, politicians, legal practitioners, and religious leaders has been set up to meet with the heads of warring factions. Conference

Chairman Baryogar Junius told the assembly late yesterday that the warring parties are of capital importance to the total resolution of this protracted civil war. He called on the Assembly to, and I quote, be realistically (?patient) in finding a lasting solution by exerting all efforts to have the disputed parties brought to the conference table as soon as possible. He said that the committee will leave the capital, Monrovia, today to meet with Charles Hitler [name as heard] at his central Liberian headquarters of Gbarnga.

Since the conference began three days ago, all leaders of Liberia's warring factions have remained conspicuously absent apart from Alhaji Koromah, who sent his elder brother to represent him. However, there are doubts about the possibility of any physical contact with Charles Taylor at his Gbarnga headquarters. United Nations and aid officials said here today that serious fighting was still taking place near Gbarnga and it was difficult to get through.

NPFL Chief of Staff Gaye Killed for Planning Mutiny

AB2808184094 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 28 Aug 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Charles Taylor, leader of the Liberian faction, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], under attack by ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and LPC [Liberian Peace Council] forces around his headquarters in Gbarnga, lost a senior commander yesterday, but not in battle. It happened when NPFL soldiers turned against their own commander. From Gbarnga, Johnson Peileili faxed this report:

Addressing a hurriedly arranged press conference in Gbarnga this afternoon, NPFL leader Charles Taylor said that one of his commanders, Lieutenant General Nixon [as heard] Gaye, was killed after an exchange of gunfire last night with members of his battalion. The men had accused him of planning a mutiny. Mr. Taylor explained that Gen. Gaye, who was NPFL strike force chief of staff, died of profuse bleeding in the early hours of this morning as he was undergoing an interrogation by his men in the presence of the security forces in Gbarnga. The NPFL leader said the death of Gen. Gaye was not a mistake, and he added: If he had not died during the interrogation, I would have ordered his execution by midday today.

The 23-year old general is alleged to have recently abandoned his post to travel to the Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire] where he reportedly struck a deal with former NPFL Internal Affairs Minister Samuel Dhokie to get his men at the frontline to stage a mutiny against Mr. Taylor. It was after that meeting, according to Mr. Taylor, that the late Gen. Gaye issued an order of mutiny to his men, who resisted, and it was then that the exchange of gunfire took place. The general is also said to

have harbored dissident forces at his base in Margibi County for the purpose of attacking NPFL positions.

Further Details on Death

AB2808183194 Paris AFP in English 1811 GMT
28 Aug 94

[Text] Monrovia, Aug 28 (AFP)—Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor announced Sunday [28 August] he had crushed a mutiny in his movement's ranks and that its main instigator, chief of staff General Nelson Gaye, had died in custody.

In statements on rebel radio monitored in Monrovia, the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) said the mutiny broke out Saturday at Salala, midway between the capital and the Front's Gbarnga headquarters 160 kilometres (100 miles) northeast of the capital.

News of the mutiny came as Taylor said he would attend the resumption Tuesday in Accra, Ghana of talks between Liberia's three main warring factions to discuss remaining obstacles to peace.

Gaye, who "sustained serious injuries during an exchange of gunfire with NPFL strike forces in Salala," died after his arrest "during investigations" Sunday in Gbarnga into the mutiny, Taylor said.

Taylor charged that Gaye had been incited to mutiny by soldiers of the African peacekeeping force in Liberia (ECOMOG) and leading NPFL dissident Samuel Dokie, who is also interior minister in Liberia's transitional government.

Dokie was named at the start of 1994 to represent the NPFL in the transitional government but seceded from the movement in July along with two other Front appointees, Justice Minister Laveli Supuwood and Employment Minister Tom Woewiyu.

The radio added that fighting over the last week between Front forces and troops of the the United Liberation Movement (ULIMO) had moved south to within around 25 kilometres (15 miles) of Gbarnga, where a dusk-to-dawn curfew had been in force since Monday.

Representatives of the NPFL and its two main rival factions—ULIMO and the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL)—which signed a peace agreement in July, are due to meet Tuesday in Accra "to review remaining obstacles to the implementation of the ... accord," Taylor said.

Taylor, who said the meeting would be chaired by Ghanaian head of state Jerry Rawlings, called on ULIMO and AFL leaders to call a truce to create "room for peace."

Signed in Cotonou, Benin, the three-party accord provides for the disarmament of all factions and the holding of general elections. But the fighting continues and the poll initially scheduled for next month has been postponed sine die.

Taylor stressed he would attend the Accra meeting personally "in the name of peace ... despite the security risk."

In illustration of Liberia's tortuous political landscape, a separate national peace conference boycotted by the three factions is due to resume Monday in Monrovia.

Meanwhile the situation on the ground has degenerated with the appearance since July 1993 of two splinter factions, the Liberian Peace Council—an AFL offshoot fighting the NPFL in the southeast—and the NPFL-linked Lofe Defence Force attacking ULIMO troops in the northeast.

Rawlings, currently president of the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States, recently warned that the organisation's patience over the Liberian war was running thin and that it could not continue to finance the peacekeeping force indefinitely.

Liberia's civil war, unleashed by the NPFL in December 1989, has left the country in ruins and, according to UN estimates, claimed more than 150,000 lives.

Correspondent Reports Gbarnga Not Under Siege

AB2708211294 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 27 Aug 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Charles Taylor, leader of the Liberian faction, NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], must be a worried man these days. Forces from two rival factions are reported to be closing in on his headquarters at Gbarnga. To the south, the Liberian Peace Council are attacking, and to the northwest, Alhaji Koromah's ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] faction is launching an offensive around the towns of Balafani and Balatua. The fighting comes at the time when the much-heralded peace conference in Monrovia had to be adjourned, because the leaders of most of the warring factions did not turn up. Our Gbarnga correspondent [Jonathan Peileili] has been up to the war front between the NPFL and ULIMO. He is now back in Gbarnga and on the line, Josephine Hazey asked him who is in control of the area:

[Begin recording] [Peileili] At the moment, Balafani is under the control of the NPFL, and the fighting is going on in Balatua, and what some people told me there was that this was a spillover from Lofa County, and that ULIMO and the Lofa Defense Force [LDF] were fighting and were in the process of crossing over into Bong County, ULIMO chased LDF, and now they are encountering the NPFL. [sentence as heard] So, the fighting is now in the Balatua. But Balafani, as I went there, it was under NPFL control.

[Hazely] Now, let me get this firmly clear. The fighting in Balatua, is it between ULIMO forces and NPFL?

[Peileili] Yes, the war is now between ULIMO and NPFL as I speak to you.

[Hazely] Now, you said you spoke to some of these people fleeing. How heavy did they tell you the fighting has been?

[Peileili] They said the fighting was heavy, especially on the first day, because some people were taking refuge in a school building there, in Balatua, and the attack took them by surprise. Some people were killed and thrown into the St. Paul River. But they did not tell me the actual [words indistinct], but they were caught up in a crossfire, and as I speak to you now, heavy reinforcement is moving to the area from the NPFL (?side).

[Hazely] Now though people have been saying that the NPFL.... [pauses] Gbarnga is under siege...

[Peileili, interrupting] No Josephine, at Gbarnga today business activities are going on, and I visited a number of places. People are going about their normal businesses. What I am aware of is that there is a curfew, and the curfew starts from 6 in the evening up to 6 in the morning. But there is no fighting in Gbarnga and around Gbarnga.

[Hazely] So, Gbarnga is not under siege?

[Peileili] No, Gbarnga is not under siege. In fact, the road between Gbarnga and Kakata is open. I understand, even a full convoy from the (Lucson) Works Service entered Gbarnga last night by way of Kakata. So, Gbarnga itself is calm. People are going about their normal businesses.

[Hazely] So, how much of what you are telling us now is being influenced by the fact that you are calling us from Gbarnga?

[Peileili] Oh no Josephine, this is an independent assessment. You realize that when the news came out it took me two, three days before I could get to you, because I wanted to go to some of the places that were mentioned; so, this is what any other person could tell you now. [end recording]

Nigeria

Abiola Trial Postponed; Judge, Prosecution Absent

AB2908112794 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 29 Aug 94

[Text] The trial of the Nigerian politician Chief Moshood Abiola which was expected to resume today in Abuja did not take place. There was no judge in the Federal High Court and the prosecution counsel was absent. Chief Abiola himself was also not in court, but several members of his team of lawyers were in court. They left after waiting for some hours. The leader of the defense counsel, Chief Alao Aka-Bashorun, told a VON [Voice of Nigeria] correspondent later that the defense

had not received any notice of hearing following the indefinite adjournment of the case by Mr. Justice Abdulla Mustapha, who withdrew from the case earlier this month. Chief Aka-Bashorun however said he was in court today to file a stay of proceedings motion pending the determination of the appeal over the jurisdiction of the Federal High Court, Abuja, to hear the case.

Chief Abiola is being tried for alleged treasonable felony. He is accused of proclaiming himself president of Nigeria in June on the basis of the annulled presidential election of last year.

Government Dissolves Boards of Federal Companies

AB2608173094 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] All boards of Federal Government parastatals, companies, and agencies have been dissolved with immediate effect. A statement issued today in Abuja by the secretary to the Government of the Federation, Alhaji Aminu Saleh, however, said the dissolution does not affect the National Primary Schools Commission which was inaugurated recently. The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has since approved the dissolution. He thanked members of the dissolved boards for contributing their quota to the development of their organizations.

Meanwhile, the chief executives of the parastatals have been directed to take over all property in the possession of the dissolved members.

New Military Service Chiefs Assume Duty

AB2608112794 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] The two service chiefs appointed on Monday [22 August] by the Nigerian government have assumed duty. The service chiefs, Brigadier General Alwali Kazir for the Army, and Commodore Mike Ahigbe, for the Navy, assumed duty on Tuesday [23 August]. The officers met with their predecessors for several hours for proper handing over.

Lagos To Withdraw From ECOMOG Liberia Operation

AB2808184594 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Alhaji Babagana Kingibe, says Nigerian troops are to be withdrawn from the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping operation in Liberia. Alhaji Kingibe told members of the Constitutional Conference commission on foreign affairs that Nigeria's intention to withdraw from the multinational force was because of its attachment to [words indistinct] investment. The minister, however, said that Nigeria, as a major contributor to the

ECOMOG force, remains committed to the restoration of peace and security to Liberia. Alhaji Kingibe said that it was the will of the Nigerian Government that Africa remain the center of its foreign policy, despite the end of the Cold War and the demise of apartheid.

Kingibe on Expelled Correspondents, Abiola Trial

AB2908103394 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Aug 94

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Alhaji Baba Gana Kingibe, in Abuja, by Emily Casreel on 28 August; from the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] [Announcer's introduction] First this Monday [29 August] morning, Nigeria, where Chief M.K.O. Abiola, widely assumed to have won the elections last year, is to appear in court in the capital city of Abuja. The court case comes at a time of political and economic uncertainty in Nigeria. The strike by the oil workers' union who are demanding the government's step-down in favor of Abiola is still on despite the dismissal of the union leaders by the head of state, General Sani Abacha. Recently, replacements have been made to the heads of the Army and Navy and a cabinet reshuffle is said to be imminent. Alhaji Babagana Kingibe is the country's foreign minister; but he was also Chief Abiola's running mate in the annulled elections last year. Emily Casreel called him up in Abuja last night and asked him if today's court appearance of his former running mate put him in a difficult position.

[Begin recording] [Kingibe] I have no difficulty whatever. I am sure that Chief Abiola himself has no difficulty either. The fact of the matter is that the rule of law prevails in Nigeria, and the law courts are there to give fair hearing and fair trial to all those accused by the appropriate agencies of state of transgressing certain laws of the land.

[Casreel] Now, you said it was up to the court to decide. But is the government considering, for example, giving an amnesty to Chief Abiola in order to try and calm down the situation in Nigeria?

[Kingibe] The fact of the matter is that Chief Abiola has been charged with a specific offense, and he has been charged to court, and the courts are deciding whether indeed such offense was committed and whether indeed they were illegal and against the laws of the land or not. You do not amnesty someone who is presumed innocent until he is proved guilty. So the question of amnesty doesn't arise, surely.

[Casreel] You have said that government wants to do everything in its power to achieve a transformation to democracy. But everything that the government has done in the past few weeks seems to be contrary. I mean, Gen. Sani Abacha's speech was really a hardline (?clampdown) of opposition, of trade union movements, and there has been expelling of foreign television crews. Now how will these things engender a peaceful debate?

[Kingibe] I am afraid I beg to disagree with you. You see, part of the—if you like—humbugs and double standards of the so-called Western democracies and their media is to accept that a minority agitators, who invoke the name of democracy, can go ahead and impose their will on the majority. But the fact of the matter is that what was in fact hooliganism, and sabotage, and arson by a group of people—a tiny minority who took upon themselves to be the champions of democracy—have consulted no one. [sentence as heard] They have not the mandate of even their union, and they were imposing their will. In fact, not an industrial relations decision but a political will on the rest of Nigeria. Now, you talked about the expulsion of foreign journalists. There were two freelance CNN journalists who came here on the understanding and with the assurance that they wanted to see the real Nigeria, not just to go to Lagos and to see the mayhem that is being perpetrated there by a tiny majority and report it as if it is Nigeria that is on fire. But they concentrated on a couple of gasoline queues and they said that Nigeria was burning. Obviously, the Nigerian Government has a responsibility to allow any foreign journalist or, indeed, Nigerian journalist to look at Nigeria as a whole, to see what is happening as a whole, and then say that this is what is happening in Nigeria.

[Casree] Does that therefore mean that the Nigerian Government will expel any foreign journalist or close down any local Nigerian newspapers which it considers that its reports don't really please the government?

[Kingibe] No, I did not say that government expects any journalist's report to be pleasing to it, but government expects that a journalist will give a balanced view, or give an accurate description of whatever it is they observe. They are quite welcome if they want to hang around the agitators and so-called prodemocracy movements and so on, and report their activities, but they ought to say that that is the activity happening around these people. But they should not ascribe to the peaceful and law-abiding 99 percent of Nigerians and Nigeria what is happening amongst 1 percent of Nigerians and in 1 percent of the Nigerian territory. [end recording]

Lagos To Send Troops to Rwanda in 'Advanced Stage'

AB2608115294 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 26 Aug 94

[Text] The Nigerian Government plans to deploy troops to assist in the peacekeeping operations in Rwanda. Preparations in this regard have already reached an advanced stage. The director of Defense Information in Nigeria, Brigadier General Fred Chijuka, spoke on the state of readiness of the troops in an interview with correspondent Ben Shilaik.

[Begin recording] [Chijuka] I am aware that arrangements are almost completed for our troops to start participating in that operation. I am sure that very soon our troops will be going down there.

[Shilaik] What about the logistics? Who provides the logistics?

[Chijuka] The home government. The Defense Headquarters is supposed to provide all the logistics. But, you know, what happens is that along the line we will put up our estimates and the United Nations will reimburse the Defense Headquarters. It will reimburse the Nigerian Government through the Defense Headquarters.

[Shilaik] How easy, or otherwise, has it been to get such refunds from the United Nations?

[Chijuka] Well, it takes some time, but I understand that in the long run the United Nations pays, because, you know, they don't just pay the way you submit your bills. They go through.... [pauses] They have their own scaling. They have to compare with their international scalings. The lower the estimates, the better, but the higher they have to adjust it. So it takes some time, but in the long run, I think, every nation gets paid.

[Shilaik] One thing that comes to mind is this question of welfare. Now, how do you tackle that before their going and, while there, how do you tackle that?

[Chijuka] You know, we have.... [pauses] When they are going is the problem, because we have to make sure that they get all the basic things required: good boots, good uniforms, (?healthy) vehicles, working rifles and every weapon that they are supposed to go with, good steel (?helmets), everything that can make a soldier function effectively and, you know, we are not a manufacturing country. We have to look for the money and, with government priorities, at times some of these things are delayed for some time; but in the long run government will solve these issues, and they are purchased. When they are purchased and they leave here, we don't have any problem with them again because the United Nations takes over their administration over there. [end recording]

Opposition Vows To Continue Fighting Military Rule

AB2808181794 Paris AFP in English 1809 GMT 28 Aug 94

[Text] Lagos, Aug 28 (AFP)—Nigerian opposition leaders Sunday [28 August] pledged to keep fighting military rule despite attacks on residences and offices of pro-democracy activists.

"Despite all these various attacks, there is no going back. We have to resist, our destiny is in our hands," Beko Ransome-Kuti, head of the Campaign for Democracy, an umbrella grouping of about 40 pro-democracy and human rights organisations, told a news conference.

The briefing was called by a prominent Lagos-based lawyer and human rights activist, Gani Fawehinmi, to give details on an attack against two security guards at his office on Friday.

The guards were seriously injured as assailants opened fire and then fled.

One of the guards had his left arm amputated because of injuries sustained in the shooting. He was hospitalized in critical condition Sunday.

In another attack, assailants tried to set fire to the home of Dan Suleiman, leader of another anti-military organization, the National Democratic Coalition, overnight Thursday.

"We should be ready to defend ourselves against these evil satans who have unleashed violence on our nation," said Fawehinmi, who suggested that the opposition should "devise new strategies" to bring down the military junta led by General Sani Abacha.

He did not explain what these new strategies would entail.

Fawehinmi said a team of about 20 policemen have been deployed to guard his office following the attack on Friday.

Another speaker at the news conference, Femi Falana, head of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, also said human rights and pro-democracy groups should think of other ways to combat the military. He said it is "obvious that street demonstrations now are ineffective and less embarrassing to the regime."

By arresting pro-democracy activists or attacking them, especially elder statesmen, the authorities are "striking at the very root of the builders of this nation," Fawehinmi said. "They are humiliating and desecrating the roots of our political independence."

Anthony Enahoro, 71, one of the architects of Nigeria's independence in 1960 and a former information minister, was one of more than 25 pro-democracy activists arrested here and in other parts of the country last weekend by security agents and taken to undisclosed locations.

According to the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA and other press reports, the police have said that they never arrested Enahoro or Frank Ovie Kokori, head of the dissolved national executive of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers.

The men have since been declared wanted by the police, the reports said.

Oil workers have been on strike for two months to press for the release of opposition leader Moshood Abiola.

Fawehinmi, who said that he suspected foul play in the police declaration, said he would hold the government responsible if anything adverse happened to the two men, who are his clients.

Last week he filed a suit at the Federal High Court in Lagos to challenge their arrest and detention.

Sierra Leone

Five Killed, 22 Wounded in Two Rebel Attacks

AB2608220094 Paris AFP in English 1834 GMT
26 Aug 94

[Text] Freetown, 26 Aug (AFP)—Rebel forces have killed a captain and four military policemen in two separate ambushes in central Sierra Leone, military officials said in Freetown Friday [26 August]. Some 22 people were wounded in the two attacks.

The ambushes were blamed on rebels of the Revolutionary United Front and occurred near the central town of Matotoka and the south-eastern town of Kenema Thursday.

The four policeman were killed when rebels opened fire on their vehicles on a highway leading north-east from Kenema, 240 kilometers (150 miles) east of the Sierra Leonean capital.

Two of the dead were named as Chief Inspector Abu Sesay and Sub-inspector Asumana Koroma.

In a separate attack about a mile from the central town of Matotoka, 150 kilometers (95 miles) east of Freetown, a man identified as Captain Nasiru Barrie was killed. Rebels opened fire on a vehicle in which Barrie was travelling with a party of soldiers, the military officials said. Barrie was killed on the spot in a hail of bullets as the vehicle somersaulted in the air. Troops from the neighbouring town of Magburaka arrived a short time later to find Barrie and some 13 wounded men lying in a "pool of blood". The 13 wounded soldiers were taken to a hospital at Makeni, 35 kilometers (20 miles) north-west of Matotoka, where their condition Friday was said to be "critical".

The Revolutionary United Front, led by Corporal Foday Sankoh, began a rebellion against the government in May 1991, conquering the south and east of the country before being pushed back towards the Liberian border in 1993. Since the beginning of this year, the rebels have carried out a series of attacks in the centre of the country and near Kenema, which has been under virtual rebel siege since the end of July.

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